BOOK OF LODGES

The force of the European Lodges
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## LODGES EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

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## BBE LEADERS

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Dear Presidents
Dear Sisters and Brothers
Dear Friends

These are special and overwhelming times: a health crisis, an increase in antisemitic acts, hatred and violence against our European values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy and equality.

We have been forced to live our lives confined and far from our friends and sometimes even our families.

Whatever difficulties European Jewish communities face, the struggles that define us as a people are always present and are the ones that move us forward.

The actions of B’nai B’rith Europe have continued despite the situation that affects all of Europe. This third edition of the Book of Lodges marks the birth of the first BBE project, based on virtual conference sets linking B’nai B’rith lodges - “BBE Talks. Dialogue and discussions”.

This edition also marks the launch of a European project to combat antisemitism, supported by the European Commission - the NOA project. BBE plays an active role within the project’s consortium.

The Book of Lodges was born out of the desire of the President of B’nai B’rith Europe, Serge Dahan, to show the strong capacity of our organization to fight for Human Rights, to combat antisemitism in Europe, to contribute to the diffusion of the culture and history of European Jews and to spread the values of our movement.

This year’s Book of Lodges is also the affirmation of our mobilization alongside governments and associations in defence of our shared European values: pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality. B’nai B’rith Europe is on the governments’ side of combatting the hatred and violence of the enemies of our civilization.

This edition of the Book of Lodges will also be an invitation to meditate on the quotation of Pastor Martin Niemöller, who was sent to the concentration camp of Sachsenhausen and then Dachau:

“When they arrested the communists, I didn’t say anything, I wasn’t a communist. When they arrested the socialists, I didn’t say anything, I wasn’t a socialist. When they arrested the Jews, I didn’t say anything, I wasn’t a Jew. When they arrested the Catholics, I didn’t protest, I wasn’t a Catholic. And when they came to arrest me, there was no one left to protest”.

The President of B’nai B’rith Europe and the members of the Executive Committee of the organisation would like to thank the European Lodges who throughout the year organized events and conferences, helped members of
the Jewish communities, supported the State of Israel and initiated and coordinated actions in the spirit of the values of B’nai B’rith: BENEVOLENCE - FRATERNAL LOVE - HARMONY.

I would like to express my gratitude towards the Lodges of B’nai B’rith Europe for contributing largely to the notoriety of our movement.

The “Book of Lodges 5781” is the third edition and is a compilation of information transmitted by the Presidents of the lodges of B’nai B’rith Europe whom I warmly thank for continuing their work despite these difficult times.

I would also like to thank Iris-Gisela Weissbuch and Hanna Kalmenson for making the third edition of the “Book of Lodges 5781” possible.

Fraternally,

SERGE DAHAN
President of B’nai B’rith Europe
Chers Présidents
Chers frères et soeurs
Chers amis

Nous vivons une époque particulière et bouleversante : une crise sanitaire, une augmentation des actes antisémites, la haine et la violence à l’encontre de nos valeurs de respect de la dignité humaine, de la liberté, de la démocratie et de l’égalité.

Nous avons été contraints de vivre nos vies confinées, loin de nos amis et parfois même de nos familles.

Quelles que soient les difficultés rencontrées par les communautés juives européennes, les combats qui nous définissent en tant que peuple sont toujours omniprésents et sont ceux qui nous font avancer.


Cette édition marque également le lancement d’un projet européen de lutte contre l’antisémitisme, soutenu par la Commission européenne autour d’un consortium dans lequel le BBE participe activement : le Projet NOA.

Le Book des Loges est né de la volonté du Président du B’nai B’rith Europe, Serge Dahan, de montrer la forte capacité de notre organisation à lutter pour les droits de l’homme, à combattre l’antisémitisme en Europe, à contribuer à la diffusion de la culture et de l’histoire des juifs européens et à diffuser les valeurs de notre mouvement.

Le Book des Loges est aussi cette année l’affirmation de notre mobilisation aux côtés des gouvernements et des associations pour la défense de nos valeurs européennes partagées : le pluralisme, la non-discrimination, la tolérance, la justice, la solidarité et l’égalité. Le B’nai B’rith Europe est aux côtés des gouvernements pour combattre la haine et la violence des ennemis de notre civilisation.

Cette édition du Livre des Loges sera également une invitation à méditer sur la citation de Monsieur le pasteur Martin Niemöller, qui a été envoyé au camp de concentration de Sachsenhausen et puis de Dachau :

« Quand ils ont arrêté les communistes, je n’ai rien dit, je n’étais pas communiste. Quand ils ont arrêté les socialistes, je n’ai rien dit, je n’étais pas socialiste. Quand ils ont arrêté les juifs, je n’ai pas protesté, je n’étais pas juif. Et quand ils sont venus m’arrêter, il n’y avait plus personne pour protester »

Le président du B’nai B’rith Europe et les membres du comité exécutif remercient les Loges européennes qui, tout au long
de l’année, organisent des événements et des conférences, qui aident les membres des communautés juives, soutiennent l’État d’Israël, initient et coordonnent des actions dans l’esprit des valeurs du B’nai B’rith : BIENFAISANCE - AMOUR FRATERNEL - HARMONIE.

Merci aux Loges du B’nai B’rith Europe qui contribuent ainsi largement à la notoriété de notre mouvement.

La troisième édition du « Book des Loges 5781” est une compilation des informations transmises par les présidents des loges du B’nai B’rith Europe que je remercie chaleureusement de poursuivre leur travail malgré ces temps difficiles.

Je tiens également à remercier Iris-Gisela Weissbuch et Hanna Kalmenson pour avoir permis la réalisation de la troisième édition du ”Book des Loges 5781“.

Fraternellement,

SERGE DAHAN
Président de 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 Sin-sheimer’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 anti-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, BBE Talks Italy, Hungary, Slovakia, Switzerland
- 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
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 Virtual Leadership Forum**

On the 15th and 16th of November 2020, B'nai B'rith International organised their virtual leadership forum, where guest speakers Katharina von Schnurbein, the European Commission Coordinator on Combating anti-Semitism, Ellie Cohanim, Deputy Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat anti-Semitism at the U.S. State Department and Josh Kraushaar, Senior National Political Columnist, National Journal delighted the event.

**BBE leaders honored by the President’s Award**

The President’s Award was created by International President Charles Kaufman. He chose this award to recognize and honor the recipients for extraordinary service. He selects the individual based on what he has learned about a project and effort that they have done for the benefit of B’nai B’rith and / or their community.

This year, among others, Mr. Serge Dahan, Mr. Paolo Foa, Mr. Albert Lipkowicz and Mr. Philippe Meyer were honored for their services despite the difficult circumstances that this year has brought.


The ceremony will take place virtually on November the 15th and 16th.
Webinar on Racism and the Covid19 Crisis

On the 7th of May 2020, B’nai B’rith Europe attended a Zoom conference focused on the COVID-19 crisis and racism. The event was organised by B’nai B’rith International, in collaboration with ARDI - Anti-Racism and Diversity Intergroup and was moderated by Director of EU Affairs of B’nai B’rith International, Alina Bricman and Coordinator of ARDI, Jelena Jovanovic. The conference was hosted by MEP Mónica Silvana González, within the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in Spain and MEP Romeo Franz within the Greens/EFA in Germany. Keynotes were given by European Commissioner for Equality, Ms. Helena Dalli and Director of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency, Mr. Michael O’Flaherty. A Civil Society panel followed, where speakers from ERGO Network, European Network of People of African Descent, Colectif Contre l’Islamophobie en Belgique and ARON Praxis joined.

B’nai B’rith disaster relief fund launches coronavirus emergency fund

Since 1865, B’nai B’rith has helped countless people across the globe who have faced adversity from natural and man-made disasters. B’nai B’rith International launched a global coronavirus emergency fund with a $10,000 allocation from its existing Disaster Relief Fund, to be used in conjunction with a new emergency campaign. The funds they raised are going to international assistance to help struggling communities around the world. As an international organization, they will work with their members and supporters across the globe to determine the most urgent needs.
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
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

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<td>Nathan E Anna Cassuto</td>
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<td>Nancy</td>
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Neuilly sur Seine: Haïm 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 Judaïsme 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 Levinas
Strasbourg: René Hirschler
Thiais: Yonathan Netahnyahou
Toulon: Levinas
Toulouse: Maimonide
Villeurbanne: Victor Basch
Versailles: Versailles
✓ United Kingdom
Cheshire / South Manchester - B.B. Cheshire
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

B’nai B’rith Antwerp was founded in Belgium seventy years ago, on the 27th November 1950. It received the name Loge Mala Zimetbaum in memory of the Jewish Antwerpian resistance fighter Mala Zimetbaum in Auschwitz.

Five years after the Shoah, one of the main goals of the founders was to rebuild a normal Jewish community life in Flanders. It was essential after WWII to restore old traditions, to reactivate the Jewish culture and start building a future for the new generation where everyone could feel at home.

Walls and strongholds are useless if no one is there to protect them. B’nai B’rith Antwerpen is a defender of the Constitution which protects human rights. It has a friendly relationship with the authorities and the Flemish Community. The organization is always ready to protect Jewish welfare and culture. Therefore fighting anti-Jewish feelings, which still exists, remains a must.

The Sisters and Brothers of the lodge are loyal Belgian citizens which support the State of Israel. The Lodge strongly and unyieldingly supports the Jewish State which remains a safe haven for Jewish people.

The main aims of the enlightened founding father Henry Jones - fraternity, benevolence and harmony - remain very much alive. There is a brotherly ambiance among the members of the Lodge Mala Zimetbaum and those who encounter any problems are helped and everyone can express their opinions.

The Lodge works hard for Freedom which means democratie. The goal is to promote progress which will ensure improvements of living standards for the next generations. The Enlightenment involves transmitting the Jewish culture heritage from one generation to another.

Activities

✓ Organizing ‘Shalom Israel’ festival, on an yearly basis
✓ Participating in the European Days of Jewish Culture
✓ Organizing conferences

Direction Board

Mentor
Leo Schumer

Secretary General
Anny Schumer

President
Willy Kahan

Secretary General
Rukmini Amin

Vice President
Daniel Peterfreund
CARMEL
Sofia, Bulgaria

History
The history of BB activities is existing since end of 19th century in Bulgaria. First sign of BB activities has been documented in Russe city at the end of the 19th century. We are proud to have 120 years of B’nei B’rith activities in Bulgaria. Main accomplishments in the following decades were related to establishing a lazarette during WWI, support given to Jewish families and the participation in many Jewish social programs in the 20’s and 30’s. Carmel Lodge created a close relationship with lodges from other European countries - Romania, Turkey.

The Lodge was then forbidden following the implementation of ZZD happened.

After 1944 there were attempts of re-establishment. In 1952, the activities of the Lodge were forbidden by the government but in 1992, the B’nai B’rith movement was re-established by the initiative of Alfred Krispin, Aaron Bali and other prominent Jewish persons.

Since then, the Lodge reopened its activities and remains a leader in the fight against xenophobia, antisemitism, and a promoter of human rights in Bulgaria.

Our main efforts are to spread remembrance of the Holocaust, to defend human right and minority rights and to promote tolerance and the principle of a democratic society.

Activities
- Support and receiving a financial award for creating multimedia work, related to the modern acceptance of Holocaust by young people
- Active work with all related authorities to stop neo-nazi activities in Bulgaria
- Strong participation in the 2020 ban of “Lukov Marsh” (a fascist initiative)
- Permanent monitoring and reports sent to the authorities for all antisemitic and xenophobic publications in social media

Direction Board

Mentor
Raphael Chichek

President
Jossif Assa

Vice President
Solomon Bali

Secretary General & Treasurer
Beki Asher
History
The lodge was created in 2003 and founded by first 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
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 General
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
- Regular meetings (10-12 per season)
- Debates with key note speakers addressing issues of actuality (within the regular meetings)
- Actively participating in the European Days of Jewish Culture

Direction Board
- Mentor
  Allan Kern
- President
  Benny Unterschlag
- Vice Presidents
  Martin Norden
  Alf Isachsen
- Secretary General
  Mikael Gradlander
- Corresponding Secretary
  Alan Melchior
- Treasurer
  Samuel Korngut
- Marshall
  Isaac Levy
- Attendant
  Joram Felbert
History

During the existence of two traditional Berlin lodges, and with their help, Leo Baeck Lodge and Janusz Korczak Lodge, the founding of a mixed lodge with over 100 members has occurred. The Lodge consists of 76 members.

Activities

- Inviting speakers with topics on Judaism, antisemitism, Israel, history, politics
- Traveling on the path of Jewish roots through Europe every year
- Celebrating the day of the Jewish cultural heritage every September
- Organizing social meetings, such as excursions or dinning together
- Celebrating Jewish holidays

Direction Board

President
András Kain

Vice President
Esther Kotek

Secretary General
Nathan Kotek

Treasurer
Claudia Löw
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 Gavrilidis

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

B’nai B’rith Budapest Lodge is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2020. This period makes everyone look back and evaluate all of the events of the three decades. As the socialist regime ended in Hungary, members of the Jewish Community had the opportunity to join the prestigious organization of B’nai B’rith International. In 1989, Györgyi Bollmann and László Korányi were supported by B’nai B’rith Munich Lodge in the establishment of the Budapest Lodge. With the support of the Hungarian Jewish Cultural Association (Mazsike), the founding ceremony was held in February, 1990. In the beginning, the Know How Fund supported the organization – not only financially. The B’nai B’rith Budapest Lodge supported Hungarian small businesses with courses, consulting and study trips. Moreover, the lodge has been working on eliminating stereotypes against the Jews in the Hungarian society. The B’nai B’rith Budapest Lodge became independent in 1994, and ever since it has been financed by the members and by grants.

Activities

- International relations, especially focused on building a strong network within the V4 countries (Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary)
- Conferences hosted by the V4 countries (every fourth year, B’nai B’rith Budapest Lodge welcomes the V4 members as well as the members of the International B’nai B’rith community)

Direction Board

President
Peter Breuer
Vice President
Magda Vadasz
Secretary General
Eva Vadasz
Treasurer
Viktor Hajos
NATHAN AND ANNA CASSUTO
Milano, Italy

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
✓ Organizing a Conference with the financier Edouard Cukierman on January the 7th (the topic being the technological innovation in the “Start Up Nation” of Israel)
✓ Supporting materially, economically and morally other foreign Lodges and families affected by the Covid crisis since February
✓ Organizing a Zoom conference in June 2020 (the topic being “Human epidemic, social disease” and “Covid-19 between numbers and emotions”)

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
ISIDORO KAHN #3498
Livorno, Italy

History
The Lodge has been created on the 15th of March 2009 (5769). It is known as the Keyla Kedusha of Livorno, the “city of NO Ghetto”.

Activities
- Initiation of various projects such as Zaddikim winds through two locations, the Monumental Cemetery and the Cemetery of the Wolves (a project including the restoration and regular maintenance of about 100 tombs of Zaddikim)
- A party dedicated to Israel during Yom Hazmaut, to be repeated in Firenze and Pisa as soon as Corona times will be over

Direction Board
Mentor
Gadiel Polacco
President
Ariela Cassuto
Vice President
David Liscia
Secretary General
Danielle Cassuto
Treasurer
Paola Samaia
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
MOSES ROSEN
Bucharest, Romania

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
✓ Organising a Zoom meeting of the Board of Directors
✓ Organizing general meetings
✓ Actively participating in the European Day of Jewish Culture
✓ Receiving of the National Order of Faithful Service in the rank of Officer by the President Jose Iacobescu, offered by the Romanian Presidency (on the day of Rosh Hashana, at the Choral Temple

(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 General
Galambos Eva

Treasurer
Vainer Anette
History
Throughout the history of almost 30 years the lodge was focused on activities related to fighting antisemitism, humanitarian aid for the Jewish community in Bratislava and on Israel. Many meetings were held with influential leaders from areas of politics. Social work and culture has been given equal attention along with the presentation of the Jewish cultural heritage through the European Day of Jewish Culture.

Activities
✓ Lodge Tolerancia was the initializer of the regular gatherings of Lodges from Prague, Košice, Budapest and Bratislava
✓ Organizing regular closed and opened meetings where politicians, actors artists and other distinguished individuals were invited to give presentations and answers to questions of relevance to the Jewish community in Slovakia
✓ The protest regarding the Slovak state television RTVS leading to the exemption of Josef Tiso (the war time Slovak President, from the show “The greatest Slovak”)
✓ Actively participating in the European Days of Jewish Culture, on an yearly basis
✓ Exhibition of Jewish Personalities of Bratislava (opened at the European Day of Jewish Culture in 2017)
✓ Fundraising on ‘The Anthology of Torah’ published this year

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 Mesežnikov
CONCORDIA
Kosice, Slovakia

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 General
Dušan Rubovič
Treasurer
Martin Schwarcz
EDMOND FLEG
Lausanne, Switzerland

History
On June the 23rd, 1975, 34 Jews from the Canton of Vaud founded the Edmond Fleg Lodge and united by a desire to live and perpetuate the B’nai B’rith principles of Benevolence, Fraternal Love and Harmony. Born into a Geneva family, the writer Edmond Flegenheimer left a major work in 1927 “Why I am Jewish” whose title, both interrogative and affirmative, corresponds well to the intentions of reflection and action of the founding Brothers of the Lodge, and those who followed them.

Activities
- Annual gastronomic-musico-cultural evenings to celebrate the Judaism of diaspora
- Adding of more than 60 Brothers and Sisters presently active
- Aiming to integrate the BBYO into the lodge and to rejuvenate it with students so they also feel more supported and integrated into a local community
- Supporting the ones touched by the negative implications of the COVID virus financially

Direction Board
Mentor
Alain Barthes
President
David Jegger
First Vice President
Michel Elkaim
Secondary Vice President
Olivier Bloch
Secretary General
David Kratz
Treasurer
Alain Barthes
Guard
Isabelle Ehrlich
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
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
HILLEEL
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

History
The lodge was created in 1926 in Amsterdam as the 986th Lodge according to the philosophy of B’nai B’rith international, Benevolence, Brotherly love and Harmony.

The goals are the promotion of the spiritual, social and material development of mankind in general and of Jews in particular.

Activities
✓ Sponsoring yearly Hanukkah Concert
✓ Supporting local kosher restaurants during Covid-19 times
✓ Fighting antisemitism in The Netherlands
✓ Organization of a holiday week in Netherlands for 20 Israëli youngsters children homes
✓ Supporting two Jewish Hilleel student houses in Delft and Utrecht
✓ Financial support for Jewish education and social activities, Maccabi
✓ Education about the Shoah

Direction Board

Mentor
Franklin Weisz

President
Orlando Heijmerink

Vice President
Hanny Schatz

Secretary General
Michael Swartz

Treasurer
Eron Wolf
HOLLANDIA
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

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 Chanukah 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
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 Chanukah party
- Occasional gala dinners

Direction Board

Mentor
Alexander Levi

President
Harry S. Klein

Vice President
Robert Hercz

Secretary General
Rolf Cohn

Treasurer
Mike Levi
History

The first B’nai B’rith lodge in Poland after it regained independence, was installed in 1922 in Warsaw, and its first president was professor Moshe Schorr. A ceremonial commemoration of the 100th anniversary of B’nai B’rith in Poland is planned for 2022.

In 1938, Poland’s pre-war government de-legalised all Freemason lodges, and grasped opportunity to de-legalise B’nai B’rith as well. An all-Polish lodge was revived and installed in 2007.

Since September 2020 it is presided by Andrzej Friedman, professor of neurology.

Activities

✔ Organizing open debates broadly related to Jewish life in Poland
✔ Issuing public statements and open letters condemning acts of antisemitism in Poland
✔ Organizing open and semi-open events and discussions on various cultural, political, historical, and social topics

Direction Board

Mentor
Kowalski Sergiusz

President
Andrzej Friedman

Vice President
Telling-Saphar Frank

Secretary General
Kruczkowska Maria

Treasurer
Nawrocki Piotr
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 are indeed 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, Ternopil, and Ivano-Frankovsk regions and volunteer doctors’ consulting
- Monthly washing an ironing bedclothes
- Monthly financially supporting appropriate number of clients in Lvov, Ternopil, 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

LEOPOLIS
Lwow, Ukraine
History
Bnai Brith Kyiv Lodge was established in 1993 and its first president was Academi- cian Mozes Sheikman. The lodge’s main goals are fighting antisemitism and pro- moting 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 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

RENNÉ CASSIN - ANTIBES JUAN LES PINS
Year of creation: 1988

Direction Board
President
François DUPUIS
Mentor
Nathalie SIBONI
First Vice President
and Secretary General
Marcelline CHLOUS
Secondary Vice President
Olivier BERTRAND-MISRAH
Treasurer
Brigitte AMOYEL
Guard
Danielle CHETBOUN
Joint Guard
Arlette CHOUMER
Social Committee
Renée SALPHATI

SHLOMO ALTUN – ANTIBES
Year of creation: 1993

Direction Board
President
Jocelyne HADDAD
Mentor
Rosine LEVY
Vice Presidents
Danielle BENOLIEL & Jacqueline LIBERMAN
Secretary General
Arlette SEBAN
Treasurer
Claude HADDAD
Guards
Jean BENOLIEL and Jean Louis LEVY

CHALOM CANNES – CANNES
Year of creation: 1968

Direction Board
President
Aviva DIANA
Mentor
Claudia SHOSHANA
Vice Presidents: Rui GONCALVES, Daniel VAJDA
Secretary General: Anie DIANA
Treasurer: Jean-Paul SPORTOUCH
Guard: Catherine MOYSAN

CÔTE D’AZUR – NICE
Year of creation: 1947

Direction Board
President: Gisèle MARUANI
Mentor: Jo ASSOULINE
First Vice President: Albert MAROUANI, Joint VP: Anny BENSSOUSAN
Secondary Vice President: Pierre LUMBROSO, Joint VP: Aimé KLEYER
Secretary General: Michèle LUMBROSO
Treasurer: Michèle DRAY
Guard: Esther ASSOULINE
Guard on traditions: Sydney MARUANI

GOLDA MEIR – NICE
Year of creation: 1984

Direction Board
President: Bernard MAX
Mentor: Joelle CHARBIT
Vice President: Jérôme CTORZA
Treasurer: Jean-Michel SEKSIC
Secretary General: Marylinn MAX
Guards: Marie-Paule KHAN and Nathalie BENAYM

MAZAL TOV – NICE
Year of creation: 1970

Direction Board
President: Huguette BENSHEMOUN
Mentor: Jacqueline QUEHEN
Vice President on culture: Corinne KEVY
Vice Presidents on holidays and recreation: Michelle ERNST, Annie AKRISH
Treasurer: Solange MOSKOVITZ
Joint Treasurer: Mady SCHOUKROUN
Secretary General: Francine KLEYER
Guards: Mireille BAKOUCHE, Francine TEOUBL
Guard on traditions: Myriam POMERANC
Accounting Committee: Jacqueline TOLILA
Social Committee: Colette BUDIDAN

MOSHÉ DAYAN – NICE
Year of creation: 1982
Direction Board
President: Annie SAYAG
Mentor: Simon BENCHIMOL
First Vice President: Denis SIBONY
Secondary Vice Presidents: Frédérique SIBONY, Bernard UZAN
Secretary General: Barbara PIETRA
Joint Secretary General: Nicole HASSOUN
Treasurer: Paule COHEN
Joint Treasurer: Lucette MIZRAHI
Guard: Serge ASSOUN
Joint Guard: Valérie ATTAL
Social Committee: Dominique SETBON

THEODOR HERTZL – NICE
Year of creation: 1979
Direction Board
President: Gilbert DE PAZ
Mentor: Daniel HARROCH
Vice Presidents: Francis KORCHIA, Joseph SALIMPOUR
Treasurers: Maryse DAROMON, Gérard TEOUBL
Secretary Generals: Catherine SALIMPOUR, Louise DE PAZ, David BOUDARA
Guards: Alain DARMON, Roger DRIGHES, Gérard TORDJMAN
Traditions: Lyne DARMON
Advisors: Patrick TOBOUL, Marie-Claire RUSO

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
Advisor: 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 General: Yolande COHEN
Advisors: Marlyse HIRSCH, Michel GERSTENHABER, Mikaël WAJSBROT, Marc LAZAR, François KATZ

**PAUL JACOB – MULHOUSE**
Year of creation: 1935

**Direction Board**
President: Robert BADER
Mentor: Nicole SIMON
Vice President: Nadia HOFNUNG
Treasurer: Denis TUCHEL

**ISAAC BEER JÉRUSALEM - NANCY**
Year of creation: 1969

**Direction Board**
President: Gérard TICOT
Mentor: Hervé BRUNNER
Treasurer: Michel DREYFUS
Secretary General: Hervé KLAJNORMAN

**EMMANUEL LEVINAS – STRASBOURG**
Year of creation: 2001

**Direction Board**
President: Elisabeth RAPIN
Mentor: Claudine KLING
Vice President: Pierre ATTYASSE
Treasurer: Jean-Pierre ROTH
Secretary Generals: Salomon LEVY, Eliane SPIELMANN
Joint Secretary General: Sylvie SCHLANGER
RENÉ HIRSCHLER – STRASBOURG

Year of creation: 1977

Direction Board

President: Raoul MEYER
Mentor: J. BOUHADANA

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
Treasurer: Mireille LEVY
Secretary Generals: Jean Maurice BENSION and Cecil BENSIMON
Joint Secretary General and Guard: Cecil BENSIMON
DEAUVILLE JÉRUSALEM – DEAUVILLE

Year of creation: 2013

Direction Board

President: André FEINGOLD
Mentor: Michel ZAKI
Vice Presidents: Daniel SARBERG, Claudine BLEINES
Treasurer: Henri MELNIK
Secretary General: Jacqueline CHEKLER
Marshal: Laure GHENON-LICHAN
Banner Carrier: Michel LION
Advisor: Nadine LEVY

KINERETH – ENGHEN-LES-BAINS

Year of creation: 1989

Direction Board

President: Sylvia GOLD
Mentor: Charles ABEHASSERA
Vice Presidents: Jean-François LANDIER, Suzanne WAJZER
Treasurer: Gilbert BERDA
Secretary General: Gilles LORRAIN
Advisor: Dominique SITRUK
Guard: Roland LOEB

ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER – LE RAINCY

Year of creation: 2004

Direction Board

President: Armand ASSAYAG
Mentor: Bernard ZENOU
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: Frida ZEITOUNI
Mentor: Gisèle TAUBERT
Vice Presidents: Michelle ROTMAN, Micheline SULITZER, Jean-Daniel LEVY
Treasurer: Claude BOKOBZA
Secretary General: Georges NEU
Guard: Régine HALIOUA
Advisors: Maurice HALIOUA, Pascal KARSENTI, Viviane MEYER

ANNE FRANK – NEUILLY-SUR-SEINE

Year of creation: 1965

Direction Board

President: Babeth Ariane ZWEIBAUM
Vice Presidents: Jean-Pierre SOLERY, Edmond ZAKINI
Treasurer: Snéjina FRECHE
Secretary General: Sophie BENMUSSA
Joint Secretary General: Ingrid-Mery HAZIOT
Guard: Evelyne SOLERY
DANIEL PEARL – PARIS

A Year of creation: 2004

Direction Board

President Mathieu VALLENS
Mentor Avishaï LEGER-TANGER
Treasurer Alain JACQUES
Secretary General Michel ALFANDARI
Reporters Olivier and Michelle LEVY
Guard Samy GEJZENBLOZEN

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 General Régine LUMBROSO
Marshal Monique HOFFMANN
GEORGE GERSHWIN – PARIS
Year of creation: 2017
Direction Board
President: Bernard MUSICANT
Mentor: Haïm MUSICANT
Vice President: Jean-Michel ZALC
Treasurer: Patricia WASERMAN
Secretary General: Suzanne ELLENBERG
Reporter: Emmanuelle ROZAN
Guard: Annie LAKS
Advisors: 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 General: Joseph KESSOUS
Joint Secretary General: 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: Marguerite BLANK, Thierry BURY
Treasurer  Patrick SOUSSANA
Secretary General  Albert PINTO
Guard  Pierre GUINI

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  Julien ARFI
Secretary General  William OUAKI
Guards  Chantal HADIDA, Jacqueline KOPPLEWIZ
Advisors  Chantal HADIDA, Monique LEVY, William OUAKI
**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 ALEIKHEM – PARIS**

Year of creation: 2015

**Direction Board**

- **President**: Flora FLEURY
- **Mentor**: Albert LIPKOWICZ
- **Vice Presidents**: Dorothée ANIS, Martine NATAF
- **Treasurer**: Serge LEVY
- **Secretary General**: Claudie ADDA
- **Joint Secretary General**: Annette FELDMAN
- **Guard**: Fabienne AMSON
- **Reporter and Integration**: Felix NATAF
- **Juridical advisor**: Hélène LYS

**SIGMUND FREUD – PARIS**

Year of creation: 2004

**Direction Board**

- **President**: Guy SAPRIEL
- **Mentor**: Emmanuel NIDDAM
- **Vice Presidents**: Roland GREEN and Judith COHEN-SOLAL
- **Treasurer**: Agnès RASSIAL
- **Joint Treasurer**: 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 responsible
Daniel MSIKA, Aris HAUPTSCHEIN 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
Treasurer Daniel HIRSCH
Secretary General Geneviève BARBIER
Marshal Lydia LAIK
Guard Claude KRIEF

LÉON POLIAKOV – SAINT-MANDÉ
Year of creation: 2015

Direction Board
President Daniel MOENS
Mentor Viviane LUMBROSO
Vice President Philippe WAINTRAUB
Treasurer Jean-Claude LUMBROSO
Secretary General Clémence ADLER
President of the Culture Committee Sylvie ADLER
Memory Committee Viviane LUMBROSO

BEN YEHOUDA – SAINT MAUR
Year of creation: 2003

Direction Board
President Marc HASSAN
Mentor Fabien DANA
Vice President Alain YAMIN
Treasurer Agnès AZOULAY
Secretary General Michel ARIE
Guard Ghislaine PARTOUCHE

YONATHAN NETANYAHOU – THIAIS
Year of creation: 1979

Direction Board
President Dov SMADJA
Mentor Edmond ZAKINI
Vice Presidents           Tamara GHNASSIA and Serge TAIEB
Treasurer               David GABBAY
Secretary General      Thierry ATLAN
Marshal                 Claude RINDZUNSKI
Department Memory       Rolland GHNASSIA
Committee (94)

VERSAILLES - VERSAILLES

Year of creation: 1989

Direction Board

President           Eric-Charles BOUHNIK
Mentor              Joseph GOZLAN
Vice Presidents     Jean-Charles GOLDBERG, Aimé OVADIA
Treasurer           Brigitte GOLDBERG
Secretary General   Eric SAIAG
Guard               Charles LALOUUM
Reporter            Roxane CHOUKROUN
Communication Advisor Agnes SIMONPAOLI
Youth Advisor       Laeticia LEVY
Advisor             Jean-Jacques HADJADJ

REGION PROVENCE MIDI PYRENEES VAR

JULES ISAAC – AIX EN PROVENCE

Year of creation: 1969

Direction Board

President           Thierry MELKI
Board 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
Mentor: Nicole GHEZ
Vice President: Charles ZENOU
Secretary General: Serge COEN
Treasurer: Alain FOURNIOUX

HARMONIE – MARSEILLE

Year of creation: 1971

Direction Board

President: Céline FRIDOSKI
Mentor and Treasurer: Madeleine MEDIONI-GONZALEZ
Mentor: Eliette NIDAM
Secretary General: Maryse FRIDOSKI
Guard: Yvette COHEN

JOSEPH KESSEL – MARSEILLE

Year of creation: 1983

Direction Board

President: Jocelyne ARDITTI
Board members: Robert ARDITTI, Jean DURAN, Albert CATALAN, Hélène COHEN, Paul DJIANE, Jean-Claude GHENASSIA, Eric GUETTA, Claude SAADA

**LOUIS KAHN - EYRAN PICARD – MARSEILLE**

Year of creation: 1967

**Direction Board**

Co-Presidents: Michel LIEBERMANN and Joyce BENABOU  
Mentor: Thierry HOCHBERG  
Vice President: Léopold COHEN  
Treasurer: Emile ABECASSIS  
Secretary General: Bernard BENZEKRI  
Joint Secretary General: Malia MYARA  
Guard: Sam COHEN-SABAN  
Joint Guard: Philippe STIOUI

**RAMBAM MAÏMONIDE – MONTPELLIER**

Year of creation: 1990

**Direction Board**

President: Raphaël SIBONI  
Mentor: Daniele MOISES  
Vice President: Martine TIMSIT  
Treasurer: Etoile SELLAM  
Secretary General: Corine WULKMAN  
Guard: Susanna AZQUINEZER

**MENAHEM BEN SALOMON – PERPIGNAN**

Year of creation: 2008

**Direction Board**

President: Philippe SCHLOUCH  
Mentor: Jean-Claude ABECASSIS  
Secretary General: Jacqueline MATHIEU
EMMANUEL LÉVINAS – TOULON

Year of creation: 1995

Direction Board

Mentor: Maurice AZIZA
Vice President: Jean BENAHIM
Treasurer: Alain SEBBAH
Secretary General: Annie BITAN

MAÏMONIDE – TOULOUSE

Year of creation: 1967

Direction Board

President: Jean-Claude NABET
Mentor and Treasurer: Max MARQUES
Vice President: André LAYANI
Secretary General: Roseline MARQUES
Joint Secretary General: Michel SZTERNBERG
Advisors: Albert ANKRI, Pierre GUEDJ

REGION RHONE ALPES AUVERGNE

MORDEHAI – GRENOBLE

Year of creation: 1985

Direction Board

President: Ada SADOUN
Vice President and Treasurer: Dina ASSOULINE
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
Marshal: Martine CAMHI
Guard: Pierre WOLF

ROBERT LEHMANN-YITZHAK RABIN – LYON

Year of creation: 1951

Direction Board

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

HÉLÈNE ET VICTOR BASCH – LYON

Year of creation: 1969

Direction Board

Co-Presidents: Sylvie ALTAR and Nicole ELBAZ
Mentor: Michèle EDERY
Vice Presidents: Betty BOULET-BOUCHOUCHA, Liliane SEBBAG
Treasurer: Laurence AZOULAY-DRAY
Secretary General: Sophie BENSAID
Guard: JEANNE RAPHAEL
Marshal: Evelyne BLOCH
JOSEPH REICH – LYON

Year of creation: 1976

Direction Board

Co-Presidents: Monique BENATAR and Laurence STEIN ROOS
Mentors: Liliane COHEN and Emmanuelle KARO
Treasurer: Sylvie NAHON
Secretary Generals: Sylvie AMSELLEM, Cathy VALLUY
Guard: Muriel CALVO
The Lodge has been created in 1968 and its main objectives are to work for the noblest aspirations of mankind, instilling in our members the purest principles of philanthropy, honor and patriotism, assisting the underprivileged and supporting cultural institutions.

Activities

- Monthly meetings
- Organizing conferences

Direction Board

Mentor
Claudia SHOSHANA

President
Aviva DIANA

Vice Presidents
Rui GONCALVES
Daniel VAJDA

Secretary General
Anie DIANA

Treasurer
Jean-Paul SPORTOUCH

Guard
Catherine MOYSAN
ELIE BLOCH
Metz, France

History
The ELIE BLOCH Lodge meets in principle on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.15 pm in closed dress, followed by a dinner and a conference open to all members of the Metz community and by invitation to non-Jews.

Activities
✓ Fighting against BDS
✓ Political actions
✓ Charitable actions
✓ Organizing conferences

Direction Board
Mentor
Patrick HIRSCH

President
Jacques SICHERMAN

Vice President
David SOLANGE

Secretary General
Yolande COHEN

Treasurer
Francois KEIM

Advisors
Marlyse HIRSCH, Michel GERSTENHABER, Mikael WAJSBROT, Marc LAZAR, Francois KATZ
EMILE ZOLA
Marseille, France

History
The Lodge was created in 1950. It was created by Holocaust survivors from Alsace, Eastern Europe and the Balkans, in order to bring back to life the community of Marseille, decimated during the 2nd World War. The Community leaders were brothers of the lodge.

The Lodge played an important role in the resolution of the children Finaly, who participated in Jules Isaac’s visit to the Vatican in 1960. It worked to welcome the Jews of Egypt, North Africa through its political, medical and legal contacts. Young Israeli victims of terrorism were also welcomed into the city’s lodges.

Activities
- European twinning with the Kosice Lodge in Slovakia and with the Leopolis Lodge in Lwow
- Lectures by academician Renée Drai Ben-sousan, historian Carol Iancu, and Father Desbois
- Gala evening for the 170th anniversary of B’nai B’rith in the presence of the Presidents of B’nai B’rith Europe and B’nai B’rith France

Direction Board
Mentor
Nicole GHEZ

President
Francine COEN

Vice President
Charles ZENOU

Secretary General
Serge COEN

Treasurer
Alain FOURNIOUX
BBE PROJECTS AND EVENTS
B’nai B’rith Europe is introducing a new project that involves a set of Zoom conferences.

This new project allows Lodges to connect, to get to know each other better and to develop their knowledge about specific topics.

Each conference focuses on one region or one country. Lodges from all over Europe have the opportunity to present their activities, the Jewish communities’ initiatives and the updates on the country’s Jewish communities’ situation.

Every conference also introduces a crucial figure of that certain Jewish community or of political scene.

This project aims to inspire, inform, unite the Lodges, all for the better future of the organization.

Main objectives:
- Highlighting one Lodge / region or country
- Gaining more knowledge about that country / specific topic
- Inspiring other Lodges
- Reinforcing the connection between the Lodges

BBE TALKS WITH ITALY

The first BBE Talks conference took place on the 29th of June. The topic of it was Cyber Space and Terrorism. President Serge Dahan initiated the conference giving a few words about B’nai B’rith Europe. Mentor of B’nai B’rith Europe, Mr. Daniel Citone continued with a short presentation of the Jewish life in Italy, right after, passing the floor to Member of the Executive Board of Directors of BBI, Mr. Paolo Foa, who introduced the speaker of the conference, cyber security lawyer, Mr. Stefano Mele. Mr. Mele discussed the topic of terrorism and cyberspace. He stated that “the real role and motivations that underlie the massive use of the Internet to achieve terrorist purposes are propaganda, recruitment, radicalization, financing of terrorist activities and coordination of terrorist activities.” Participants had the opportunity to ask questions about the specific situation in their respective countries.
BBE TALKS WITH HUNGARY

The second BBE Talks conference took place on the 28th of July. The topic of it was the current renaissance of Hungarian Jewry. President Serge Dahan initiated the conference giving a few words about B’nai B’rith Europe. Vice President of B’nai B’rith Budapest, Ms. Magda Vadasz, continued with a short introduction of the topic of Hungarian Jewry. Right after, passing the floor to Ms. Eva Vadasz, Secretary General of B’nai B’rith Budapest and journalist, who introduced the speaker of the conference, freelancer project and finance manager, Ms. Theodora Jordanidisz. Ms. Jordanidisz discussed the history and present of Jewish communities in Hungary. An insight on the Budapest Jewish life and accomplishments was also part of her presentation. Conclusions of the second BBE Talks conference were brought by Mr. Peter Breuer, the President of B’nai B’rith Budapest.

BBE TALKS WITH SLOVAKIA

The third BBE Talks conference took place on the 13th of October. The topic of it was the history, life and future of Jewish communities in Slovakia. President Serge Dahan initiated the conference giving a few words about B’nai B’rith Europe. A member of Tolerancia Lodge of Slovakia, Tomas Stern, presented a bit about the history of Bratislava’s Jewish community, followed by a presentation of the Tolerancia Lodge, by the President of the Lodge, Peter Werner. Historian Milan Kolcun talked about the history of the Jewish community in Kosice and the Vice President of Lodge Concordia, Roman Gajdoš offered an overview of the work of the Lodge in Kosice. The keynote speaker of the conference, Grigorij Mesežnikov then tackled the main topic of the event - Jewish communities in Slovakia as a whole. Conclusions on the third BBE Talks conference were brought by the President of B’nai B’rith Europe, Serge Dahan.
Launched on 1st February 2020, NOA – Networks Overcoming Antisemitism, offers a pioneering approach to tackle the problem of rising antisemitism in Europe. With its unique partnership of major Jewish networks, it aims to evaluate EU Member States’ policies across areas, from education to culture and security, and help them to develop holistic national action plans to address and prevent antisemitism.

The project is supported by the European Commission and involves a consortium with five other European Jewish organizations – CEJI (A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe), WJC (World Jewish Congress), AEPJ (The European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage), EUJS (European Union of Jewish Students) and EUPJ (European Union for Progressive Judaism).

REPORT CARDS

The governments are held accountable through a National Report Card based on the various fields of actions called for in the EU Council Declaration, benchmarking progress indicators and engaging the various stakeholders in the development and implementation of national action plans. The National Report Card methodology examines areas that can be difficult to measure, while sharing good practices, especially in relation to Education and Remembrance, Hate crime and Hate speech, Security, Media, Interfaith-Intercultural dialogue, Religious Freedom and Sports.
NOA COMPASS

An online hub of good practices and resources was created in order to support Member States in the implementation of their action plans. This section of the project is focused on creating a community of people fighting antisemitism in Europe. It translates into a mapping exercise of initiatives to combat antisemitism.

TRAINING AND TEACHING

Anti-bias training and teaching tools are disseminated to public authorities, schools, communities and sport clubs. A new and improved Overcoming Antisemitism Training Manual is produced, with 4 downloadable resources for addressing the most pressing pedagogical challenges faced today.

ANTISEMITISM IN SPORTS

Commitments from sporting authorities and clubs are gathered, in order to ensure that they are creating inclusive and respectful environments wherein any expression of antisemitism or other forms of hatred will not be tolerated. This includes 5 national workshops reaching 125 sporting leaders, leading to concrete action plans.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Cultural events celebrating pluralisms and promoting dialogue are initiated by Jewish cultural institutions. Positive narratives are diffused through cultural festivals, school-based programmes, film and social media campaigns using new resources and scaling up existing good practice.

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

A social media campaign – ‘Profiles’ sheds light on the positive contributions of European Jewry to wider communities where they live. The campaign focuses on past and present Jewish contributions to Europe, representing models, initiatives and contemporary stories that reinforce a positive narrative of European Judaism.
WEBSITE

The B’nai B’rith Europe’s new website was launched in August of this year.

www.bnaibritheurope.org

COVID REPORT

The times we have lived for the past few months were quite peculiar and overwhelming. We have been constrained to live our lives confined and away from our friends and sometimes even our families.

No matter the difficulties the European Jewish communities faced, the values defining us as a people are still omnipresent and are the ones that keep us going.

In order to paint a picture of B’nai B’rith Europe and that of the Jewish communities all around the continent during COVID 19, President Serge Dahan decided to create a report, gathering information from all the Lodges of B’nai B’rith Europe, in this way, inspiring one another and reinforcing the idea of solidarity and that of community.
EVENTS WITH PARTNERS

B’NAI B’RITH EUROPE SUPPORTS LUXEMBOURG SHABBATON

by UJGIL in Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

From the 14th to the 16th of February, nearly 90 participants from more than 13 different countries took part in the International Shabbaton organized by the Union of Young Jewish People of Luxembourg on the theme “Melting Pot in Luxembourg: a new crossroad of Judaism”.

The weekend kicked off at 17:00, when participants were divided into three groups for an initial activity where they were able to introduce themselves and talk about their personal Jewish traditions. They then took part in a quiz about Luxembourg. After a service in the Great Shul led by former minister-officer of the community Michel Heymann, they had dinner together over a succulent couscous prepared by Véronique Nacache and her team.

YOM HA’AZMAUT - THE 72ND INDEPENDENCE DAY OF ISRAEL

B’nai B’rith Europe co-organised and attended the Yom Ha’atzmaut Zoom celebration, on the 29th of April. B’nai B’rith International also organised the event, in collaboration with the World Jewish Congress, the European Union of Jewish Students, the European Jewish Congress, the Coordinating Committee of Jewish Organizations in Belgium, the European...
Leadership Network and the Mission of Israel to the EU and NATO. Ambassador of Israel to the EU and NATO, Mr. Aharon Leshno-Yaar gave an enriching speech, singer and song-writer Yaniv Hoffman enchanted everyone with his voice and repertoire and Chef Joseph Hadad offered everyone a cocktail preparation training.

MAJOR JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS LAUNCH UNIFIED POSITION ON TACKLING ANTISEMITISM ONLINE IN RESPONSE TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION CONSULTATION

On the 14th of September 2020, B’nai B’rith Europe, along with major Jewish organizations working with the EU institutions – B’nai B’rith International, AJC TI, EJC, CEJI, WJC and EUJS – launched a unified position on tackling antisemitism online, in response to the Digital Services Act consultation by the European Commission.

As the European Union looks to redefine its approach to digital governance under the motto A Europe fit for the Digital Age, maintaining a safe online space, free of hate and incitement must be a key priority.

The joint call offers 10 recommendations for the future legislation to effectively tackle antisemitic content online and demand higher accountability from online platforms and service providers.
LODGES EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS
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.

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.

This year, given the difficult circumstances, AEPJ has promoted, together with the network of participating institutions, an edition that was based on new technologies and the digital world, giving the opportunity to reach a wider audience worldwide. In this way, for the first time in 20 years, on the opening day of the Festival, an eight-hour online program was held, open to the entire public, where conferences, interviews, concerts and videos on European Jewish heritage took place, offering a unique look, from the inside, at the history and Jewish communities of a large number of European participating countries.
B’nai B’rith France was an active partner of the European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage this year as well. As a reminder, the “open days” in Alsace, created in 1996 by the René Hirschler Lodge of B’nai B’rith have become the JECPJs with the coordination of the AEPJ (Association for the Preservation and Enhancement of European Jewish Heritage). AEPJ brings together 30 countries, including France with around 450 events. This year, the JECPJs took place throughout the country from September 6th and the theme was “Journeys and migrations in Jewish culture”. It is within this framework that on Sunday the 6th of September, a Zoom conference entitled “The History of migration” was organised by the National Memory Commission of B’nai B’rith France, chaired by Francine Coen, vice-president of the BBF, with B’nai B’rith Europe. There were three conferences within this colloquium. The three conferences covered the following: “History of a migration: Jaen-Alger-Marseille 1492-1962 “, by Jocelyne Arditti, president of the Joseph Kessel Lodge in Marseille, “Salonique-Smyrne-Alexandria, the end of the Levantine capitals and the exodus of minorities”, by Michel Benveniste of the B’nai B’rith in Geneva and “From Warsaw to Paris, mirror to the larks? “, by Thierry Hochberg, from the Louis Kahn Lodge in Marseille.
JEWISH HERITAGE DAY

By Raoul Wallenberg Lodge - Berlin, Germany

On the occasion of the “Jewish Heritage Day”, accompanied by a professional guide a group of 30 members of the Lodge visited the town of Beelitz, 40 km from Berlin. Beelitz once had a large Jewish community consisting of 1000 members.

Established by B’nai B’rith and opened in 1908, it housed a school for special needs children from the Jewish community. This institution was under the direction of the educator Sally Bein. In 1942, the children and Sally Bein were deported to Sobibor, Poland. A memorial plaque in commemoration of Salomon (Sally) Bein has already been unveiled in the B’nai B’rith Forest of Martyrs.

In 1993, the school was renamed “Sally Bein Gymnasium” on the initiative of its own students. A memorial stone on the grounds commemorates this exceptional teacher. Unfortunately, no specific information is provided for visitors to this memorial stone. We will submit an application for a memorial plaque to be mounted at the bus stop in front of the high school.

B’NAI B’RITH ROMANIA CONFERENCE

By Moses Rosen Lodge - Bucharest, Romania

B’nai B’rith Romania organized an event to mark the European Day of Jewish Culture. The event was organized at the Jewish Museum and was live streamed. It was also recorded and will be posted online for further availability.
EXHIBITION “FRANCE AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JEWISH CULTURES FROM 1791 TO THE PRESENT DAY”

By B’nai B’rith France

The national culture commission of B’nai B’rith France is organizing 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. 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.

Through this exhibition, B’nai B’rith France wants 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 White Paper recalls the history of the establishment of Jewish communities, their contribution to the construction of the different European States and endeavours to highlight, country by country, the current situation of the 1.4 million Jews who live in Europe today (0.2% of its population) and for whom their future in these States is regularly the object of doubts and questioning. Special thank yous go to the members of the Europe National Commission for this achievement, which took many months of work and which constitutes an important analytical tool for understanding the current rise in anti-Semitism in Europe, which is necessary in the essential fight against this scourge which lies at the heart of our commitment.
“HOW TO BE A MINORITY IN CONTEMPORARY POLAND”

By Polin Lodge - Warsaw, Poland

An open debate in a renowned Warsaw theatre on “How to be a minority in contemporary Poland”, with the participation of representatives of the protestant, LGBT, and black minorities.

SOLIDARITY

SOLIDARITY WITH THE ITALIAN POPULATIONS DURING COVID TIMES

By Nathan E Anna Cassuto Lodge - Milan, Italy

Since February, Nathan E Anna Cassuto has been committed with all its resources and with the support of other foreign lodges and donors to aid and help materially, economically and morally families and people in difficulty due to the Covid-19 emergency. This commitment continues because the emergency is still present.
SOLIDARITY WITH THE BAD WEATHER-AFFECTED FRENCH POPULATIONS

By B’nai B’rith France

The dramatic bad weather that hit and several sites in the Alpes-Maritimes upset everyone. In order to show their solidarity with the disaster-stricken populations, B’nai B’rith France is mobilising itself.

The lodges of the Côte d’Azur region will participate directly in a collection of foodstuffs and basic necessities organised on the spot. For all the lodges and F&S throughout France, the National Office of B’nai B’rith France and the National Solidarity Commission are offering to make direct donations. An emergency fund-raising campaign has been set up by the Nice Côte d’Azur Metropolis.
MEETING WITH EDOUARD CUKIERMAN

By Nathan E Anna Cassuto Lodge - Milan, Italy

On January 7th, the financier Edouard Cukierman talked about the technological innovation in the “Start Up Nation” of Israel, at the Bené Berith in Milan, presenting the book “Israel Valley - The technological shield of innovation”. The meeting was moderated by Barbara Pontecorvo, (lawyer and Chair of the Solomon Observatory against Discrimination) with Paolo Sabbadini (agent of the Cukierman Investment House for Italy) and enriched by the presence of the President of the Milan Jewish Community, Milo Hasbani.

The technological revolution of this century passes also through Israel. A small country of 8 million inhabitants produces technological innovation with a value of almost 80 bn USD at the effective exit values of many Israeli start-ups. A country defined by many as the “Start Up Nation” has been able to create a unique environment in terms of ability to create technological innovation. The role of the State, the freedom guaranteed by solid institutions, the continuous immigration producing intellectual stimuli and the intellectual liveliness of Israeli citizens have allowed Israel to be the center of technological innovation, attracting the interests not only from the Western world (USA primarily) but also from countries such as China. The meeting started with a few introductory words addressed by the President of Milan Bené Berith, Joe Abeni and by Paolo E. Foà, member of the board of B’nai B’rith International. The room was crowded not only with Bené Berith Milan members but also Milan Jewish Community members. This has allowed Bené Berith to carry out, once again, a work of spreading positive values of the Israeli society in a historical time when anti-zionism and antisemitism are very strong even in the Western Countries. The Bené Berith, throughout the world, fights against antisemitism in this way too.
On Sunday, the 16th of February 2020, Mala Zimetbaum Lodge organised a big event in the synagogue Romi Goldmunz, in Antwerp. The Jewish Rescuers Citation event honored family Leuwenkroon. The decoration was offered by the Ambassador of Israel to Belgium, Emmanuel Nashon.

ASSIGNING OF THE GOLD MENORAH

By Isidoro Kahn Lodge - Livorno, Italy

Isidoro Kahn Lodge started to activate a collaboration with all other Italian Lodges. The beginning of this cooperation started at the end of last year, in Firenze, with the Milan Lodge - Nathan E Anna Cassuto, Rome Lodges - Elia Benamozegh and Stefano Gaj Tache.

A Gold Menorah was assigned by the Lodge of Rome to the Director of the Uffizi Gallery of Florence, Doctor Schulz, for standing in favor of the recovering of stolen art masterpieces during the Shoah.
MEMORIAL FOR RABBI ELIAS PINCHAS BARZILLAI

By Philon Lodge - Athens, Greece

The annual event of February 23rd, in memory of the late Rabbi Elias Pinchas Barzillai, was organized this year by the Jewish Community of Athens and B’nai B’rith Lodge Philon.

The President of the Jewish Community of Athens, Mr. Albert Taraboulous and the President of B’nai B’rith Lodge Philon, Mr. Victor Batis foretold the event, highlighting the importance of knowing our History and the role of Rabbi Barzillai as leader during the occupation. Mr. Batis also referred to the history of the founding of B’nai B’rith and his important, charitable and social actions.

After Askawa in Memory of Rabbi Barzillai by Rabbi Gabriel Negrin, the Special Envoy for the Fight Against Antisemitism and the Defense of the Holocaust, Dr. Efstathios Lianos - Liantis, as the first speaker, referred to the two-thousand-years history of Jews in Greece, their contribution to the country, and the lessons learned from the historical action of Rabbi Barzillai. Afterwards, Mrs. Lillian Capon specifically referred to Rabbi Barzillai’s personality and his actions to save the Jews of Athens, starting from the Italian occupation.

Jerusalem’s B’nai B’rith World Center Director, Alan Schneider referred to the institution as well as to the Commission for the Recognition of the Heroism of Jewish Savior set up in 2011 by the B’nai B’rith World Center in Jerusalem under the chairmanship of Dr. Haim Katz. At the end of his speech, Mr. Alan Schneider delivered to Rabbi’s Elias Barzillai descendants, Mr. Nishim Benmayor and Mrs. Esther Atun - Benmayor, a certificate from the Jewish Rescuer’s Citation in recognition of the devotion, courage and heroism exhibited by Rabbi’s Elias Barzillai in rescuing fellow Jews during the Holocaust (about 3,000 in Athens). The last speaker, Nishim Benmayor, Rabbi Barzillai’s grandson, referred to today’s Holocaust Remembrance Day, the values deserving of those who rescued Jews and the contribution of Archbishop Damaskinos, Aggelos Everett and Panagiotis Haldezos for the rescue of the Jews. The closing of the event was marked by Ms. Joanna Nahmia, a member of the Community Council, who delivered a commemorative gift to Alan Schneider on behalf of the Jewish Community of Athens, to thank all the participants of the event for their efforts as well as the attendees for their participation. After the event, attendees had the opportunity to visit a photo exhibition (at the entrance of the Synagogue) on Rabbi Elias Barzillai as well as persons and events of his time.
A Zoom conference was organized by B’nai B’rith Lausanne, open to all on the 13th of September 2020, from 19:30 to 21:00, on the theme of ‘Population Genetics and the Jewish People’.

The speaker, Mr Marc Fellous, Professor Emeritus of Human Genetics, at the University Paris Diderot, shared his experience and commitment in this field over the last forty years. After having gone through the tools of genetics, he has led the assistance to the four corners of the world, from Sephardic and Ashkenazi men and women, to the migration of the peoples of the Near East compared to other peoples, to the specificity of certain genetic diseases, etc...

He expressed his astonishment at some of his first results, particularly concerning the extreme genetic proximity between Ashkenazis and Sephardis and their distance from the respective surrounding peoples, confirming the dispersion of a single Jewish people from the Near East.

In showing us population graphs with multiple origins, he insisted on the following point: “there is no specific marker of a population, only frequencies are discriminating”.

The session ended with a Questions and Answers section which will have enabled the audience to better understand the statistical complexity of genetic analyses and to better interpret the future results of genomics, which will be drawn over the next few years, before a dilution linked to the globalization of populations.
At the ceremony, the Mayor of Düsseldorf, the chairman of the Jewish Community, the Chief Rabbi of Düsseldorf and a large number of guests participated. In a special project, supported by the Düsseldorf Museum for the Commemoration of the Holocaust and the B’nai B’rith Franz Rosenzweig Lodge, pupils of the Jewish Albert Einstein secondary school have worked out the history of the building and the life story of some of the Jewish pupils, who later perished in the Shoah. As part of the project a memorial stalle was erected in front of the building.

The Düsseldorf Lodge, the predecessor of the current Franz Rosenzweig Lodge was inaugurated in 1901. One of its renowned presidents was Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck, who later became president of the Grand Lodge in Berlin. After years of renting rooms in different locations, in 1921, the Lodge acquired the property on Grafenberger Allee Nr. 78. In 1934 B’nai B’rith was banned by the Nazis, like all other Jewish organizations, so the Lodge transferred the property to the Jewish Community of Düsseldorf, which still continued to exist for several more years. After the Jewish school was damaged at the Pogrom night (Pogromnacht) of 1938, it was moved into the building on Grafenberger Allee 78.
BBE LEADERS
A selection of pictures of BBE Leaders
**Peter Breuer**  
*President of Budapest Lodge*

**Magda Vadasz**  
*Vice President of Budapest Lodge*

**Jossif Assa**  
*President of Carmel Lodge*

**Raphael Chichek**  
*Mentor of Carmel Lodge*

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**Solomon Bali**  
*Vice President of Carmel Lodge*

**Beki Asher**  
*Secretary General and Treasurer of Carmel Lodge*

**Emil Magriso**  
*Member of Board of Carmel Lodge*

**Pavel Eshkenazi**  
*Member of Board of Carmel Lodge*

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**Reni Pilossof**  
*Member of Board of Carmel Lodge*

**Zelma Almaleh**  
*Member of Board of Carmel Lodge*

**Benny Unterschlag**  
*President of Denmark Lodge*

**David Jegger**  
*President of Edmond Fleg Lodge*
Oliver Bloch  
Secondary Vice President of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Alain Barthes  
Mentor & Treasurer of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Michel Elkaim  
First Vice President of Edmond Fleg Lodge

David Kratz  
Secretary General of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Joe Abeni  
President of Nathan E Anna Cassuto Lodge

Iacobescu Jose  
President of Moses Rosen Lodge

Galambos Eva  
Secretary General of Moses Rosen Lodge

Manole Iosiper  
Mentor of Moses Rosen Lodge

Isabelle Ehrlich  
Guard of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Hilleel Lodge - from left to right: Eron Wolf Treasurer, David Cohen Paraira Secondary Treasurer, Hanny Schatz Vice President, Orlando Heijmerink President Michael Swartz Secretary General Franklin Weisz Mentor

Michel Elkaim  
First Vice President of Edmond Fleg Lodge

David Kratz  
Secretary General of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Oliver Bloch  
Secondary Vice President of Edmond Fleg Lodge

Isabelle Ehrlich  
Guard of Edmond Fleg Lodge

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President of Nathan E Anna Cassuto Lodge

Iacobescu Jose  
President of Moses Rosen Lodge

Galambos Eva  
Secretary General of Moses Rosen Lodge

Manole Iosiper  
Mentor of Moses Rosen Lodge
Wechsler Henry
Vice President of Moses Rosen Lodge

From left to right: Sergiusz Kowalski - Vice President of Polin Lodge, Andrzej Friedman - President of Polin Lodge

Dr. András Kain
President of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Marina Polewski-Akselbant
Responsible with Culture of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Garry Wolff
Responsible with Social issues of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Nathan Kotek
Secretary General of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Claudia Löw
Treasurer of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Michael Kortmann
Responsible with Politics of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Monica Shevack
Responsible with Youth of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Esther Kotek
Vice President of Raoul Wallenberg Lodge

Pavel Traubner
Honorary Life President of Tolerancia Lodge
Juraj Alner
Mentor of Tolerancia Lodge

Juraj Stern
Past President of Tolerancia Lodge

Ludovit Fischer
Past President of Tolerancia Lodge

Eva Salnerová
Past President of Tolerancia Lodge

Aviva Diana
President of Chalom Cannes Lodge

Jacques Sicherman
President of Elie Bloch Lodge

Francine Coen
President of Emile Zola Lodge