

IJCIC

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BUDAPEST -- The International Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee (ILC), holding its 20th conference in Budapest, has expressed its deep regret over certain polemical and intemperate statements being made over the controversy concerning the role of Pope Pius XII during the period of the Second World War.

Cardinal Walter Kasper and Rabbi David Rosen, the co-chairs of the ILC, declared, "We reiterate our commitment to a relationship based on mutual respect and sensitivity. Disagreements between us which inevitably occur from time to time must always be expressed in a manner that reflects this spirit and not in language that only exacerbates tension."

Cardinal Kasper noted that the concerns of the Jewish community have been clearly conveyed to the Holy See at the highest level.

Ten days ago, the request was made by the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) at a Papal Audience with Pope Benedict XVI that all archival material be made available for independent scholarly review before any far reaching decisions are made by the Holy See concerning persons and policies during that period of the Second World War.

The ILC is the convened body of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews and the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC).

The International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) is a coalition of Jewish organizations representing world Jewry to other religions. IJCIC's member organizations are American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith International, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Israel Jewish Council on Interreligious Relations, Rabbinical Assembly, Rabbinical Council of America, Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, Union for Reform Judaism, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, World Jewish Congress