

International Interreligious Affairs, November 2010 highlights

USA

I was in the US during the first week of the month for a number of AJC engagements.

1st – NY. Addressed a joint meeting of the NY, Westchester and New Jersey offices on the subject of Jewish-Muslim relations.

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=50525&id=167874409895307>

2nd – NY. Attended the Board of Governors meeting of Religions for Peace (see :- <http://www.religionsforpeace.org/>) of which I am an international co-president .

3rd – Philadelphia. I had the honor of being the guest speaker at AJC Philadelphia's event conferring its

2010 National Courage of Belief Award on Dr. Jack Templeton, president and chairman of the John Templeton Foundation – the prize is awarded to individuals who have lived out their moral ideals serving the community and advancing significant and enduring humanitarian improvements in the world.



4th – Atlanta. It was my honor to be the main speaker, together with South African Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool, at the opening of the AJC co-sponsored exhibition at Morehouse College, on the life of Helen Suzman, the Jewish heroine of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. (see:- http://www.pmr-nlf.com/suzman/html/suzman_calendar.html)

5/6 - NY - Archbishop Timothy Dolan hosted me at his residence, to discuss Catholic-Jewish and Vatican-Israel relations in the wake of the special Vatican Synod on the Middle East.

Sweden

8th – Stockholm. It was my singular honor to give the Krister Stendahl memorial lecture, paying homage to one of the greatest figures of our times in Jewish-Christian relations and in interfaith relations generally. The late Bishop Stendahl was the Dean of the Harvard Divinity School and served as the head of the Lutheran church in Stockholm. In addition, I addressed a gathering of the students at Paideia

(<http://www.paideia-eu.org/>) the European Institute for Jewish Studies

(see:-

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=37805&id=153666954653142&fbid=168305183189319>)

My address for the Krister Stendahl memorial lecture was on the topic "Is Religion the problem or solution – especially in the Middle East " (text may be found at:- www.svenskakyrkan.se/default.aspx?di=714080)

UK

9th – London. On my way home, I attended the trustees meeting of the Coexist Foundation (see:-<http://domain3133911.sites.fasthosts.com/home/1/welcome-to-the-coexist-foundation.htm>)

UAE

28-30 – Dubai

I participated in the second meeting in Dubai of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Councils. I serve on the GAC on Values. (see:-
<http://www.weforum.org/en/Communities/GlobalAgendaCouncils/SummitontheGlobalAgenda2010/index.htm>