



Monthly Highlights

October-December 2018

International Interreligious Affairs

October 8/9 Amsterdam

Due to my position in KAICIID (www.kaiciid.org), I was able to facilitate the establishment of the first ever organizational structure for Jewish-Muslim collaboration in Europe the Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC) which held its first formal meeting in Amsterdam Holland hosted by the city's mayor and municipality. The emeritus grand mufti of Bosnia (and president of the world association of Bosniaks) Dr. Mustafa Ceric and I were made patrons of the council.

See: <https://www.kaiciid.org/news-events/news/faced-rising-xenophobia-hate-speech-and-policies-limiting-religious-practice>



October 14-16 Sant Egidio

The annual interfaith meeting of the Roman Catholic Community of Sant Egidio took place this year in Bologna.

<https://preghieraperlapace.santegidio.org/pageID/30660/langID/en/orator/260/Rosen-David.html>

I was honored to present at a special session dedicated to the memory of Saint John Paul II.
<https://preghieraperlapace.santegidio.org/pageID/30660/langID/en/event/1160/Panel-22--John-Paul-II-the-Pope-of-Dialogue.html>



October 21-29 Morocco

The very successful AJC leadership mission to Morocco held jointly by the Departments for Interreligious Affairs and the Office for Governmental and International Affairs took place during the last week of October.

Interreligious highlights included an evening session and dinner hosted at the Rabita Mohammidiya des Oulemas de Marocce (the Council of Muslim scholars of Morocco) by its Director Dr. Ahmed Abaddi; a visit to the Institute for the training of Mourchidines and Mourchidates (male and female imams and religious guides) where I addressed a class of women students

[Rabbi Rosen speaking about the commonalities between Islam and Judaism at the Moroccan Imam Training Center;](#)

an interfaith social evening in Marrakech arranged by the President of the Jewish community, Mr. Jacky Kadosh <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2j1EkohULkA> ; a Sufi cultural evening hosted by Abel and Kenza Damousi; and the Andalusian/Atlantic festival in Essaouira established by Mr. Andre Azoulay the Advisor of the King, in which the delegation participated; also celebrating Shabbat with the many Jewish visitors from around the world for the event.

A special Muslim-Jewish dialogue took place during the festival in which I participated together with Mr. Azoulay and Dr. Abaddi.

See: <https://youtu.be/PEnuap1gQOA>



October 30 - November 6 Toronto

From Morocco I went on to Toronto Canada, to participate and speak at the Parliament of the World's Religions. Beforehand on **October 31**, I spoke at an interfaith function at Congregation Beth Tzedec.

<https://www.beth-tzedec.org/page/beth-tzedec-calendar/a/display/s/0/item/hold-interfaith-dialogue-with-panel>

I was also interviewed by CBC on their program Tapestry, as well as by the Canadian Jewish News

See: <https://www.cjnews.com/news/israel/rabbi-david-rosen-bringing-the-worlds-religions-together>

November 2-6. The Parliament of the World's Religions, is the largest interfaith gathering in the world that takes place every four or five years in a different country/city. Almost ten thousand participants from around the world came to the Parliament in Toronto, at which I spoke at two plenaries and on six panels.

The following video is from the major plenary on the subject of Interreligious Understanding

<https://youtu.be/uqf9NYbsOXo>



November 19-20 Rome

The sixteenth meeting of the bilateral commission of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and the Holy See, on which I serve, was held in Rome on the subject of the Welfare of Children, as it coincided with the UN Day of the Child.

See:

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2018/11/22/181122d.html>

The commission members were invited to a special audience with Pope Francis in celebration of the occasion.

See: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-11/pope-francis-chief-rabbinate-israel.html>



President Rivlin of Israel had just visited Pope Francis and the Jerusalem Post report in this regard noted our contribution to the historic reconciliation of the Catholic Church with the Jewish People and Israel, <https://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Rivlin-to-make-second-Vatican-trip-in-three-years-570579>

November 21 London

At the invitation of the British Chief Rabbi and the Archbishop of Canterbury, I gave the keynote address at Lambeth Palace at a day's conference they convened to promote collaboration between rabbis and priests in the UK.



November 25-27, Extramedura, Spain

The meeting of the Eijah Interfaith institute’s Board of World Religious Leaders on which I serve, was convened in Spain and focused on the potential of mysticism as a spiritually unifying force.



December 5-7, Abu Dhabi

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Bayyah and his Forum for the Promotion of peace in Muslim societies and throughout the world convened the conference for an Alliance of Virtues in Abu Dhabi under the patronage of the UAE political leadership. I was privileged to address the opening session (see https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=FEuCNyGIER8) as well as a session on Abrahamic universal ethics .



Together with some of my rabbinic colleagues who participate in the conference, we spent Shabbat in Dubai with the little Jewish community at the same time that the AJC mission was there and thus we were able to celebrate Shabbat eve and Hanukah together

See: <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/chanukah-miracles-in-the-uae/>



December 10/11, Rome

From Abu Dhabi I flew to Rome to attend the final meeting of Ethics in Action (which convened captains of industry, scientific experts, and representatives of the world's religions to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals.) Like most of the meetings, this took place at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (at the Casina Pio IV in the Vatican.) The papers and proceedings of the meetings have been presented to Pope Francis for use in the Holy See's global representation on these issues.