



Monthly Highlights

January-April 2019

International Interreligious Affairs

January 8 – 15, US

Three AJC Regional offices in the US hosted me in January.

In Miami, I addressed a dinner meeting of the local Muslim Jewish Advisory Council on January 8th; a Catholic-Jewish Breakfast meeting the next morning with Archbishop Wenski.

The main event was a well-attended meeting of the local AJC Marshall Society Lunch where I spoke on the topic “Is Religion the Problem or the Solution”.

See <https://www.sun-sentinel.com/florida-jewish-journal/news/miami-dade/fl-jj-miami-ajc-rabbi-david-rosen-20190206-story.html>



On Thursday January 10th I continued on to Atlanta. A courtesy visit was paid to Archbishop Wilton Gregory,



and in the evening the local AJC director Dov Wilker interviewed me on my work at the Atlanta AJC's 75th Anniversary gala event.

<https://atlantajewishtimes.timesofisrael.com/rosen-continues-to-inspire-interfaith-progress/>

(<https://atlantajewishtimes.timesofisrael.com/ajcs-rabbi-rozen-to-discuss-judaism-and-other-religions/>)

Over the Shabbat I was scholar-in-residence at Congregation She'arith Israel, speaking on Friday night on Relations between the Catholic Church and the Jewish People/State of Israel, which was also attended by Catholic leaders: and at Shabbat lunch time on AJC's role in new interfaith initiatives from the Arab Muslim world.

My visit culminated in Sarasota where in addition to parlor meetings, I addressed the major educational luncheon event of the AJC office on Catholic-Jewish relations and my relationships with three pontiffs.



<https://www.youobserver.com/photo-gallery/american-jewish-committee-ajc-west-coast-florida-winter-lunch-learn>

Feb 4-6, and Feb. 18, Vienna

The annual meeting of the KACIID Advisory Board took place in Vienna on February 5/6 and was followed the next day by a Board of directors meeting.



On Feb.18th, KACIID hosted the meeting of the Executive of the newly established Muslim Jewish Leadership Council in Europe to plan its strategy for protecting and advancing religious freedom on the continent. See <https://shar.es/am2UIQ>

March 6-8, Rome

AJC's Ambassadors Society Mission to Rome led by Interreligious Chair David Inlander culminated in an audience with Pope Francis



<https://www.jns.org/pope-francis-meets-with-american-jewish-committee-delegation-in-the-vatican/>

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/pope-francis-praises-role-of-women-in-meeting-with-jewish-delegation>

and included a meeting with the Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin, a visit to the community of Sant Egidio, and a public dialogue between Cardinal Kurt Koch, President of the Holy See's Commission for Religious relations with Jewry and myself, held by the Cardinal Bea Center at the Gregorian Pontifical University. The visit concluded with Friday night Shabbat dinner attended by Cardinals Archbishops and other senior clergy as well as leaders of the Jewish community in Rome, at the Casina Valadier in the Borghese gardens.

During the mission, a special conference was hosted by the Vatican on Religion and the Sustainable Development Goals which I addressed and which was attended by members of the AJC delegation.

The following press release was issued by Religions for Peace (www.religionsforpeace.org):

Rabbi David Rosen presents "A Jewish perspective on the SDG Goals"



Rabbi Rosen listens to other faith leaders after completing his remarks at the Vatican conference

(7 March 2019 | Vatican City) Rabbi David Rosen [Co-President of Religions for Peace] presented “A Jewish perspective on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” at the recent Vatican conference convened by H.H. Pope Francis entitled “Religions and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Listening to the cry of the earth and the poor.”

Rabbi Rosen indicates that “caring for the well-being of all, as summarized in the SDGs, is fundamental to the understanding in the *Torah* (the Jewish Bible) of what it means to be human, created in a divine image.”

He continued to explain how, in the Jewish tradition, human beings are tenants on this earth and are responsible for caring for it, as it will inevitably return to its Creator.

We invite you to learn more by listening to his complete [remarks on this panel](#), an [interview](#) regarding his meeting with H.H. Pope Francis, and reading his [remarks](#) on the opening of the Vatican Archives during the period of the *Shoah*.

March 25-28, Manchester UK

The tenth Anglican-Jewish meeting of the bilateral commission of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and the Archbishop of Canterbury took place in Manchester, England , on the subject of how memory is used in our respective traditions. The members of the commission were hosted by the Lord Mayor of Manchester and at the Rylands Library, and me with some of the young Muslims Jews and Christians involved in the FODIP (Forum for discussion on Israel and Palestine) program . The Chief Rabbinate’s delegation was also hosted before arriving in Manchester, by the Sikh community in Birmingham under the leadership of Bhai Sahib Mohinder Singh.

<https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2019/03/anglican-jewish-commission-holds-latest-round-of-talks-in-manchester-england.aspx>



April 1/2, Lindau, Germany

The island town of Lindau on Lake Constance will be the site of the tenth World Assembly of Religions for Peace (www.religionsforpeace.org) due to take place in August. As a co-President of the organization and a member of the Assembly Preparatory Committee, I took place in the meeting held in Lindau to design the Assembly.



AJC's response to Pope Francis' instruction to open up the Vatican Secret Archives from the period of Pope Pius XII's papacy receive extensive press coverage

International:

Reuters - <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-pope-archives/vatican-to-open-secret-archives-of-wartime-pontiff-pius-xii-pope-idUSKCN1QL11Q>

Wall Street Journal - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/vatican-to-open-archives-on-world-war-ii-pope-pius-xii-11551715960>

JTA - <https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/vatican-will-open-secret-archive-on-holocaust-era-pope-pius-xii>

Canadian Broadcasting Assoc. - <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/vatican-to-open-pope-pius-xii-secret-archives-1.5041484>

Daily Mail UK - <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6769059/Pope-open-secret-Vatican-archives-wartime-pontiff.html>

Catholic Herald <https://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2019/03/04/vatican-to-open-secret-archives-on-pope-pius-xii/>

Boston Herald - <https://www.bostonherald.com/2019/03/04/vatican-to-open-archives-on-world-war-ii-era-pope-pius-xii-accused-by-jewish-groups-of-staying-silent-on-holocaust/>

BBC World News - <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47444293>

Washington Post - https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/pope-francis-to-open-world-war-ii-era-vatican-archives-to-scrutiny/2019/03/04/2908ff80-3e75-11e9-9361-301ffb5bd5e6_story.html?utm_term=.97e5ec829e5d

Chicago Tribune - <https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ct-pope-francis-pius-xii-vatican-archives-20190304-story.html>

Guardian UK - <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/mar/04/vatican-to-open-archives-on-controversial-wwii-pope-pius-xii>

Time - http://time.com/5542794/pope-pius-xii-holocaust-records-pope-francis/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+time%2Ftopstories+%28TIME%3A+Top+Stories%29

Independent UK - <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/pope-pius-xii-vatican-open-archives-ww2-holocaust-jews-a8806501.html>

CNN - <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/03/04/world/vatican-archives-pius/index.html>

NY Times - <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/04/world/europe/pope-francis-pius-xii-archives.html>

US News & World Report - <https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2019-03-04/pope-vatican-next-year-to-open-archives-on-wartime-pius-xii>

La Presse Italy - https://www.lapresse.it/cronaca/shoah_american_jewish_committee_bene_bergoglio_su_archivi_pio_xii-1204449/news/2019-03-04/

NY Jewish Week - <https://jewishweek.timesofisrael.com/opening-wartime-archives/>

Fox News - <https://www.foxnews.com/world/pope-francis-to-open-vatican-archives-on-world-war-ii-era-pope-pius-xii-accused-by-jewish-leaders-of-staying-silent-during-holocaust>

Local Israeli:

Times of Israel - <https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/vatican-archives-hitlers-pope/>

YNet News English - <https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5473369,00.html>

Jerusalem Post - <https://www.jpost.com/Breaking-News/Vatican-to-open-secret-archives-of-wartime-pontiff-Pius-XII-pope-582399>

Haaretz English - <https://www.haaretz.com/world-news/europe/vatican-to-open-archives-on-pope-accused-of-turning-blind-eye-to-the-holocaust-1.6985331>

YNET – <https://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-5473243,00.html>

Maariv – <https://www.maariv.co.il/news/israel/Article-687708>

Haaretz – <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/europe/1.6985312>

Kikar Hashabbat – <https://www.kikar.co.il/309174.html> (one of the leading and largest Haredi news websites)

Additional media

The following radio interview with me was broadcast by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

www.cbc.ca/1.4988475

The following press item written by a participant in the Project Interchange delegation of religion writers to Israel, refers to my presentation to the group

<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/-israel>