



THE MUSLIM JEWISH ALLIANCE

—

COMMUNICATION
COORDINATION
COOPERATION

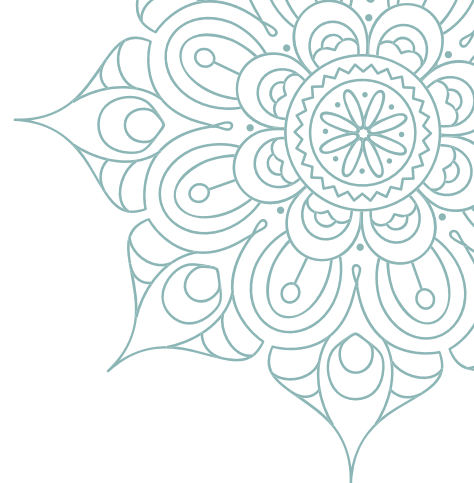


**WE TALK
TO EACH
OTHER,
NOT ABOUT
EACH
OTHER.**



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INTRODUCTION

We started the Muslim Jewish Conference more than 10 years ago. We have committed over a decade to forming innovative networks of cooperation amongst a new generation of Muslim and Jewish change makers, entrepreneurs, and allies.

We have managed to become not only one of the main conveners of grassroots and young leaders as well as experts in this field but also a very efficient one – with a budget of less than 1,000,000 Euros from 2010 to 2020. Our reputation is known in international organizations such as the United Nations or the Organization for Security

and Cooperation in Europe as well as embassies and consulates throughout this world. We have convened more than 1,500 multipliers through the Muslim Jewish Conference and the Connecting Action summits with a minimum of resources. We only dare to imagine what we could be able to achieve with more support.

This presentation serves to illustrate MJC's organizational performance and to present its plans for the year 2022 and beyond:

- 1. Officially present a new entity titled, “Muslim Jewish Alliance” (MJA), for Communication, Coordination and Cooperation**
- 2. The since 2020 active MJA contains the MJC as well as other action including:**
 - MUSLIM JEWISH CONFERENCE**
 - ALUMNI PROJECTS**
 - LOCAL CHAPTERS**
 - MUSLIM JEWISH FESTIVAL**
 - CONNECTING ACTION INTERNATIONAL**
 - MUSLIM JEWISH FELLOWSHIP**

MOTIVATION

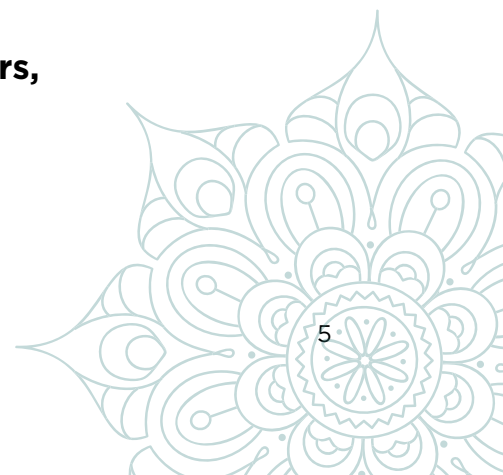
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Over the course of 12 annual conferences, we have identified significant and widely overlooked opportunities to enhance mutual understanding, respect and cooperation among Muslims and Jews in the areas of

- **HUMAN RIGHTS**
- **BUSINESS AND COMMERCE**
- **EDUCATION**
- **CLIMATE CHANGE**
- **ARTS AND CULTURE**
- **SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL RESEARCH**
- **STANDARD OF LIVING**
- **INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND COOPERATION**

We have provided a safe space to experiment with and envision new ways of advancing the work of the MJC on local, regional, and global levels, empowering bold and innovative activities. From working with refugees and organizing speakers' corners to delivering food to those in need in times of crisis, our International community is used to reacting to urgent matters while the MJA strategizes on crucial long-term issues.

With this in mind, the Muslim Jewish Alliance aims to create and sustain the necessary connections and connect actions to enhance mutual understanding, respect and cooperation among young entrepreneurs, civil society leaders, organizations and institutions.



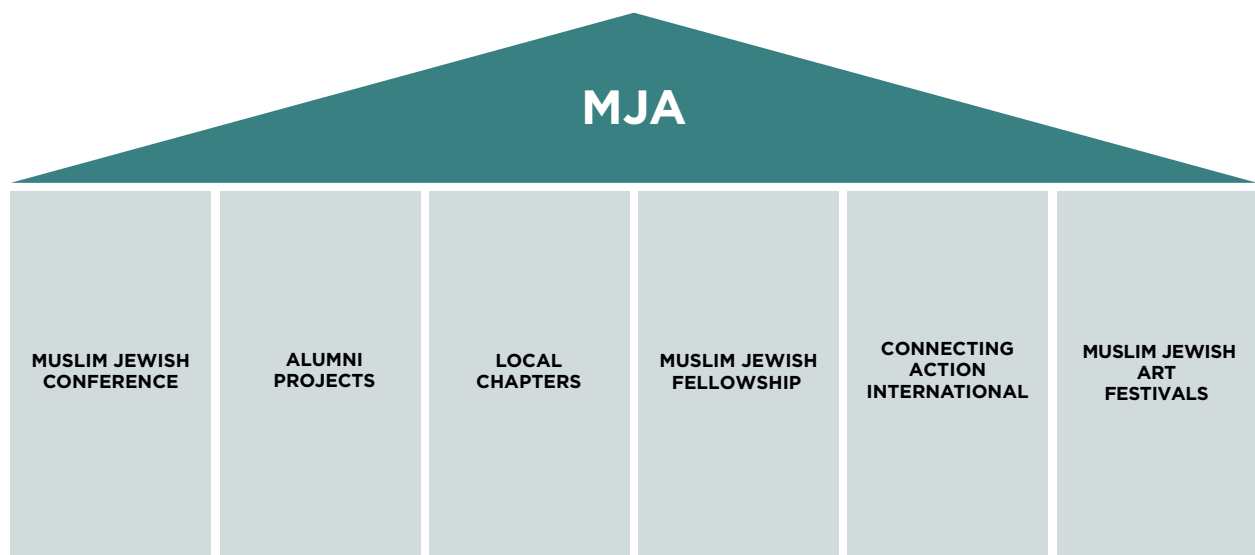
THE MUSLIM JEWISH ALLIANCE

The MJC is an initiative that has proven its utility. To move forward with the MJC and to expand its impact, we need to develop an organization that will provide the sustainability and professionalism that the Muslim-Jewish community needs for the future: the Muslim Jewish Alliance (MJA).

Our communities need a dynamic mixture of safe spaces for activists, entrepreneurs and experts to share best practices and to work in innovative networks of cooperation.

The Muslim Jewish Alliance will support highly skilled ambassadors, professional communities, local chapters and international initiatives. We can mobilize young multipliers and drivers of change on local, European and international levels.

MJA Pillars:



WHAT IS THE MJA'S MISSION?

- 1. To create safe spaces for all of its actions – the MJC, Alumni Projects, Local Chapters, Muslim Jewish Festivals, Connecting Action International, and the a Muslim Jewish Fellowship - to carry out their efforts in an effective and mutually beneficial manner.**
- 2. To take care of the many follow-up efforts and initiatives after the trust-building happens at the annual Muslim Jewish Conference.**

Over the past 10 years, we have proven that the MJC can impact both individual actors and the entire interfaith movement. As the MJA, we are now more than a conference and an event-based organization: we are a mission-driven movement.

CONTEXT

Building on the success of its annual conference, the MJC leadership incorporated the Muslim Jewish Alliance (MJA), an entity that includes the annual MJC as well as other programs.

MISSION

The MJA seeks to initiate and strengthen networking platforms for existing interfaith and dialogue institutions as well as hubs for activists and ongoing activities in this field. The MJA aims to foster innovative cooperation between Muslim and Jewish communities by encouraging dialogue between, and leadership by, a new generation of civil society leaders, educators, academics, dialogue facilitators, and parents committed to a more peaceful and cooperative world.

VISION

The MJA envisions a world where interfaith and dialogue organizations collaborate with one another to maximize their impact and outreach.

APPROACH

The MJA will provide the space and the home that is desperately needed for the global family of Muslims and Jews who are seeking to change the realities on the ground. Hundreds of alumni reaching thousands of activists are trying to make a difference in their communities, but lack the resources, knowledge, expertise, and partners to do so. Through the pillars detailed in the following pages and listed below, the MJA will solve this problem by establishing a hub of knowledge, ideas, and experiences, and by developing mutual and professionally guided support.

THE MUSLIM JEWISH CONFERENCE

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MISSION

The Muslim Jewish Conference is a grass-roots dialogue and leadership initiative that focuses on building sustainable networks between Muslim and Jewish leaders from around the world. The annual conference brings together students and young professionals and invites them to step beyond the boundaries of ignorance and stereotyping in order to build a new global political movement of young Muslim and Jewish leaders, activists and experts who are committed to mutual respect. Conference participants, who belong to all faiths and affiliations, work together to develop and implement projects focused on promoting interfaith and cross-cultural dialogue.

VISION

MJC envisions a world where global Muslim and Jewish communities exhibit mutual understanding and respect and cooperate to enhance and preserve peace and prosperity. MJC envisions itself as a perpetual creator and sustainer of relationships among global Muslim and Jewish communities to help them talk to each other, instead of about each other.



HISTORY

Since its founding in 2010, the MJC has hosted a conference every year in cities including: Vienna, Austria; Kiev, Ukraine; Bratislava, Slovakia; Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Berlin, Germany; and Paris, France.

APPROACH

The MJC hosts annual, week-long conferences that provide a safe space for ~150 global participants and staff to engage in meaningful dialogue on topics including: confronting stereotypes, discrimination and prejudice, the religion of “the other,” interfaith and intra-faith dialogue, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and genocide awareness. A major initiative during the week is “sharing the pain,” where we visit memorial sites of genocide having affected both communities (Srebrenica 2013 & 2017, Mauthausen 2014, Babi Yar 2011, Sachsenhausen 2016). Visits to holy sites are also included in the program. Participants co-produce grass-roots projects, including programs focused on tolerance and education, interfaith or art, which create global and local impact.



ORGANIZATION

The MJC is led by professionals based in Vienna, Austria and supported by a robust team of volunteers from across the world, including North and South America, Europe, the Middle East, Australia, and Africa. MJC maintains a network of over 1,500 alumni across more than 60 countries, who work in their own communities to promote the MJC vision and support alumni-led projects that amplify the message of peaceful dialogue, rippling the effect of the conference. Furthermore, they spearhead the attempt to create local chapters around the globe and spread the MJC's vision while creating change on the ground.

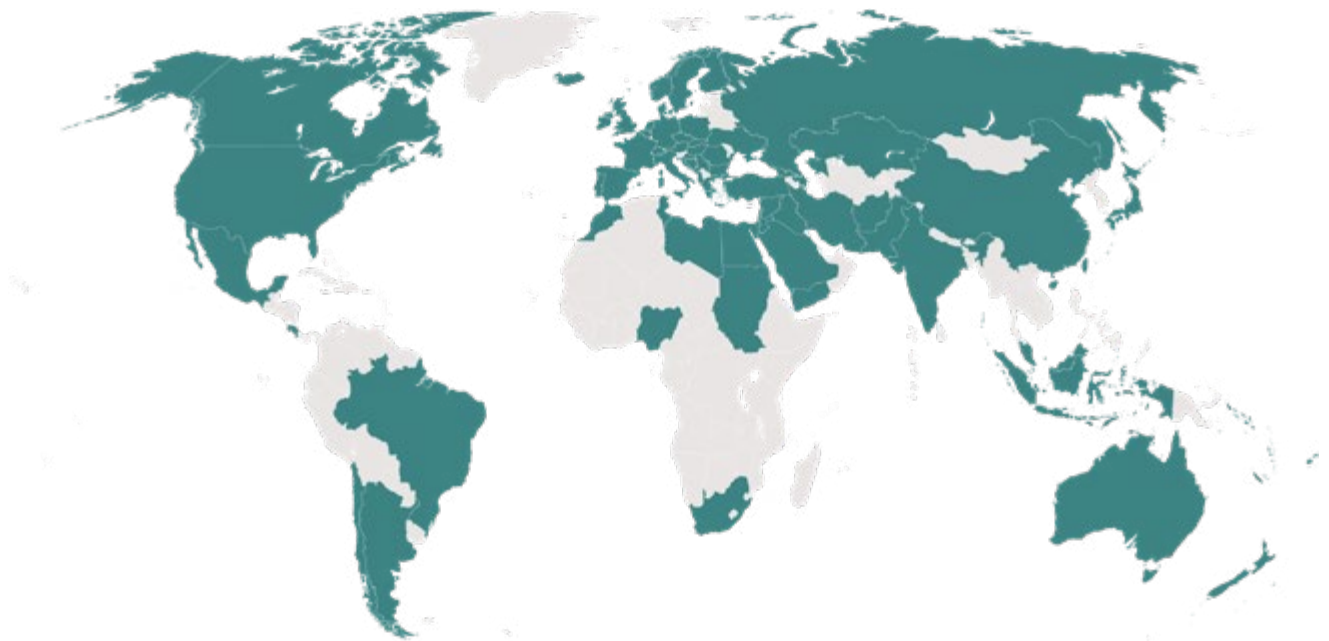
LOOKING AHEAD

The 13th annual MJC will be held in 2022 in a hybrid format, in order to accommodate participants from all over the globe with special focus and support for local hubs. The conference will span multiple days and will incorporate skill-building work-shops, project incubation sessions and presentations as well as thematic working groups. The conference will invite both new participants and MJC alumni in order to focus on building alumni projects and local chapters.

MJC - FACTS & NUMBERS



We have welcomed participants to the MJC from all over the world, including:



■ represented country

Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, Tunisia, Ukraine, USA & Yemen

MJC CONFERENCES & COMMITTEES 2010 - 2019



MJC 2010 🌿 60 VIENNA AUSTRIA Islamophobia & Anti- Semitism / Education / The Role of Media	MJC 2014 🌿 120 VIENNA AUSTRIA Gender and Religion / Arts & Culture / Collective Memory / Historical Narratives & Identities / Conflict Transformation / Power and Religion	MJC 2017 🌿 140 SARAJEVO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA Beyond religious borders: Muslim Jewish intellectual exchange / Gender, religion intersectionality and prejudice / Power Religion and Human Rights / Anti Semitism, Anti Muslim racism and hate speech / Project Development and Implementation
MJC 2011 🌿 70 KIEV UKRAINE Anti-Semitism & Islamophobia / Conflict Transformation / Muslim-Jewish Arts Track / The Role of Media	MJC 2015 🌿 140 BERLIN GERMANY Conflict Transformation / Power Gender and Religion / Living as a Minority / Anti-Semitism Islamophobia and Hate Speech / Arts and Culture / Project Development and Implementation	MJC 2018 & Connecting Actions 🌿 120 PARIS FRANCE 4 tracks: Interfaith Projects, MJC Local Chapters, Dialogue Experts in the Connecting Actions network, and Community and Coalition Building for artists, innovators, entrepreneurs and other free-thinkers
MJC 2012 🌿 80 BRATISLAVA SLOVAKIA Anti-Semitism & Islamophobia / Faithful Citizens & Positive Narratives / Sustained Community Dialogue / Women in Religion / Muslim-Jewish Business Venture / Muslim-Jewish Arts Track	MJC 2016 🌿 150 BERLIN GERMANY Historical Narratives and Identities / Conflict Transformation / Power Religion and Human Rights / Arts and Culture / Us and Them: Encountering Marginalization / Projects Development and Implementation	MJC 2019 🌿 60 VIENNA AUSTRIA Training workshops, sharing best practices, visioning, strategizing and pre-launch of the Muslim Jewish Alliance following the MJC's 10th anniversary gala.
MJC 2013 🌿 60 SARAJEVO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA Conflict Transformation / Anti- Semitism & Islamophobia through Cinema / Back to the Basics: Introduction to Judaism and Islam / Gender and Religion / Hate Speech and its Influence on Public Opinion / Education and the Effects of Historical Narratives		

ALUMNI PROJECTS

MISSION

In order to take home and bring to life the vision of the MJA worldwide, notable alumni of the MJC and MJA initiatives are invited to engage in collaborative projects which were incubated and inspired during their respective experiences over the last ten years.

The goal is to enable, encourage and support cross-cultural initiatives that provide young drivers of change with a framework for establishing vital connections and joint action, through the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and experiences.

APPROACH

One of the main roles fulfilled by the MJC in previous years is that of a project incubator. During the Muslim Jewish Conference and during local meetings by alumni, countless project ideas were born and incubated.

To encourage ongoing communication and contact among participants and alumni, they will be invited to design projects and implement these initiatives throughout the year. This work will be supported by a professional Project Development and Implementation Department within the MJA.

The Muslim Jewish Alliance will provide incentives, knowledge and structure to allow MJA Alumni to co-create concrete impact. Alumni projects and project ideas have



included: The “Lighthouse,” a community house for young activists and creators from the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region, to examine, research and catalyze regenerative social change within their communities and the region as a whole; The “Faith in Youth” Project within the Blackburn with Darwen Interfaith Forum, which increases public knowledge and mutual understanding between different faith communities in West England; and The “Diversity Network,” a team of young Muslim, Jewish and Christian professionals who are well trained in the skills of conflict resolution, who work together dealing with the differences amongst themselves and as a facilitation team conducting training workshops for young adults all around the nation in Argentina. Each year, one selected alumni project will receive 5-10,000 EUR in seed-funding: a microgrant that allows for macro impact.

Implementing the ideas we have conceptualized at the MJC throughout the last decade would provide the impact and long-lasting change we are seeking to develop.

MUSLIM JEWISH FELLOWSHIP

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MISSION

The MJA Fellowship will be a special community among the MJC Alumni. Through the constitution of a high-level network of exceptional alumni and partners leading outstanding ideas, we advance the MJA's mission and impact on a global scale. These exceptional drivers of change and experienced leaders in their fields will be empowering Muslim-Jewish interaction and impact, redefining effective engagement.

APPROACH

Through personal and professional development networking and support the MJA Fellows are to take an active role in designing, driving and creating the change they envision. The MJA will connect exceptionally creative and innovative members in our community and link them with various international and local networks of change, influencing political and social landscapes alike. Built on the MJC's 13 years of experience fostering trust-building, skill-building, and coalition-building the Muslim Jewish Fellowship will provide young leaders in interfaith work with a forum to exchange best practice, develop skills and improve their work through an interdisciplinary curriculum. In cooperation with other organizations and initiatives, the Fellows will benefit from a diverse expertise to help them fortify the impact of this work together.



LOCAL CHAPTERS



MISSION

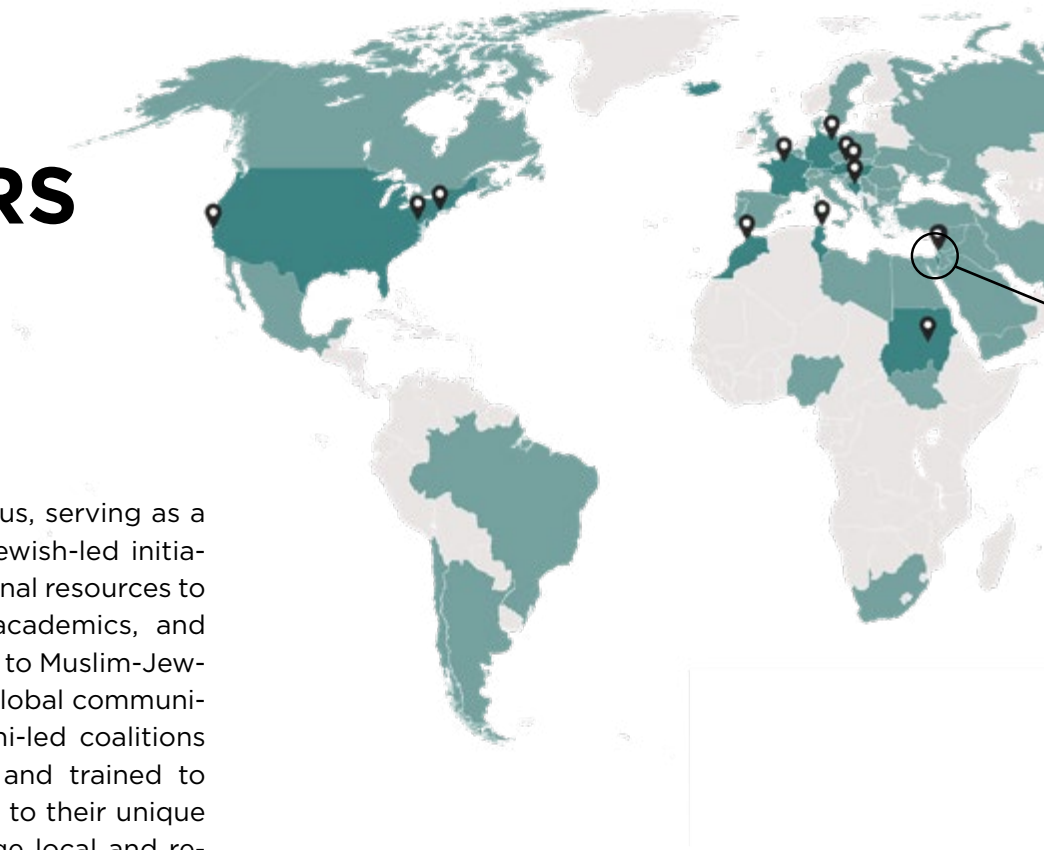
The MJA will expand its focus, serving as a platform for Muslim- and Jewish-led initiatives and providing educational resources to communities, institutions, academics, and the media on topics relevant to Muslim-Jewish relations. By creating a global community, local and regional alumni-led coalitions will be supported, guided and trained to best address issues relevant to their unique circumstances and to change local and regional realities. Selecting a group of trusted alumni to lead one chapter and support it throughout its first year of existence can provide local change and connect it with the necessary coalitions, thereby strengthening a global movement.

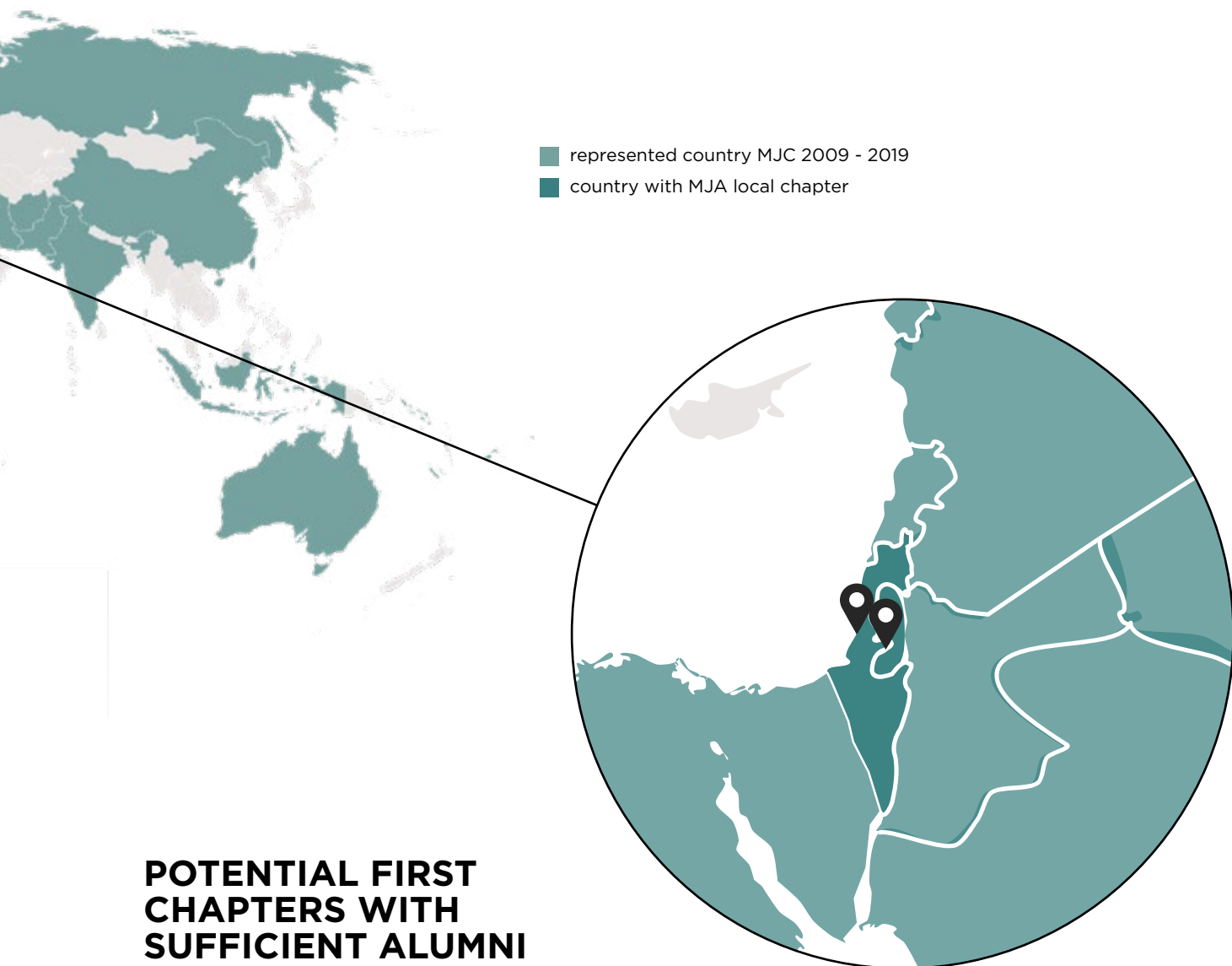
APPROACH

Utilizing our roster of skilled activists, experienced educators and our established reputation as a leader in the field, we will provide guidance to alumni and activists who are already working on creating local MJA chapters as well as new organizations working in these areas. The main goal is to create more safe spaces and continue Muslim-Jewish cooperation at the local level. These local chapters will remain connected to a global alliance for a culture of constructive engagement.

Local chapters will address the specific needs of the local and regional communities by implementing best practices and approaches. Each local chapter will organize multiple internal and public-facing events throughout the year, and will produce reports on local challenges and innovative solutions to be distributed to the MJA and its networks. Local chapters will thereby spread the MJA's mission to achieve immediate, on-the-ground impact in the fields of dialogue and conflict resolution, while also contributing local expertise to broaden the MJA's global perspective.

In uncertain times that pose challenges to international gatherings due to COVID-19, the importance of local chapters becomes even more urgent.





POTENTIAL FIRST CHAPTERS WITH SUFFICIENT ALUMNI SUPPORT:

Rabat | Morocco
Sarajevo | Bosnia & Herzegovina
Khartoum | Sudan
Ramallah | Palestine
Tunis | Tunisia
Tel Aviv | Israel
Vienna | Austria
Berlin | Germany
Paris | France
New York | USA
Washington DC | USA

MUSLIM JEWISH ART & CULTURE FESTIVALS

MISSION

The Muslim Jewish Festival, or “MJFestival” is a platform for Muslim and Jewish artists, communities and initiatives to celebrate the diversity of Muslim and Jewish life. The goal is twofold: to empower young Muslims and Jews to portray their artistic and active societal engagement to a broad audience, and to educate the audience about the diversity of Muslim and Jewish communities.

APPROACH

We particularly aim to promote visibility of the creative work coming from both Muslim and Jewish communities. In 2022, the MuJew Festival carried on 2021’s first iteration, which took place during the “1700 years of Jewish life in Germany” events by continuing to showcase the presence of Muslim and Jewish life and art in Germany and beyond. Following editions of the Festival can also contribute to a first digital archive of contemporary Muslim and Jewish art and cultural production.

As a platform that showcases the diversity and creativity of Muslim and Jewish life the Muslim Jewish Festival lies at the intersection of religion, art and culture.



CONNECTING ACTION INTERNATIONAL



MISSION

Connecting Action International will be an international network of intercultural, interfaith and grassroots organisations, as well as experts who can share best practices in various fields and reinforce collaboration where possible or necessary.

APPROACH

ConnAction international will be a vital step in the MJA's effort to build strong coalitions among national and international initiatives. After thirteen years of activity within and among grassroots activists, the MJA will take the lead in convening experts, practitioners and entrepreneurs cultivating spaces to exchange vital experiences and best practice among those working to make a difference. By building sustainable coalitions we maximize each other's efficiency and impact, strengthening our global movement in the field of Muslim-Jewish relations.

ConnAction international will organize symposia for professionals and leaders and produce reports on best practice for experts and activists building coalitions among Muslim and Jewish organizations as well as those committed to the field of dialogue. This ambitious coalition gathers and supports local, regional, european and international organisations, united in fighting hate, ignorance, prejudice, racism as well as discrimination through joint action.

THE MJC SCOPE

SOCIAL MEDIA

66,414 people reached

Through organic and word-of-mouth spread, the MJC has achieved a massive reach in the last ten years. In this picture, the application process for the MJC can be seen to have organically reached more than 65,000 people on social media.



TESTIMONIES





The level of multicultural dialogue, collaboration and communication I experienced in just a few days at MJC is unmatched by any other program I have ever attended.

Zev Hurwitz, USA



Abraham is proud of us.

Mohamed Taha Barkaoui, Tunisia



Sometimes there is more than what you see.
I am not only a Muslim attending a conference, but more importantly, a black woman, living in Europe. My identity is more complex than you think.

Mahada Wayah, Germany



MEDIA COVERAGE

A SELECTION

FORWARD.COM

Stereotypes and similarities at Muslim Jewish Conference

HUFFPOST UNITED KINGDOM

The 2014 Muslim Jewish Conference: An Ambitious, Daring and Unforgettable Week

HUFFPOST UNITED KINGDOM

Muslim Jewish Conference Meets in Sarajevo to Combat Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism

JERUSALEM POST

Muslims and Jews from around the world gather in Berlin for seventh annual interfaith confab

NEWSWEEK ME

Lest We Forget: My Experience at the Muslim Jewish Conference

TABLET MAGAZINE

Empathy Knows No Bounds. Europe Needs It Most of All

TIMES OF ISRAEL

US and Them - Muslim Jewish Conference

TIMES OF ISRAEL

Muslim Jewish Dialogue Tackles Conflict Head-On

NEW YORK TIMES

Bosnia's Muslims, Jews, Christians Chide Politicians

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL

Building bridges of peace through interfaith dialogue

REUTERS

Faith, History and Community in Bosnia

WHAT THEY SAY

Muslim Jewish Conference has responded to the call, having grown to include members from nearly forty countries from all over the world. Under the leadership of founder Ilja Sichrovsky, the commitment of your volunteers and the success of your grassroots movement has been an inspiration for all who endeavor for a politics of dignity and mutual respect.

Bill Clinton
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Thank you for all that you are doing with your colleagues, to create more chances to spread the culture of dialogue and mutual respect inside the Muslim Jewish communities.

André Azoulay,
COUNSELLOR TO
H.M. KING MOHAMMED VI MOROCCO

Civil society engagement as lived out by the friends and supporters of the Muslim Jewish Conference is essential in a society that regards diversity as an asset and wants to promote peaceful coexistence characterized by mutual respect and interest in others. To ensure that this engagement can be maintained, the Muslim Jewish Conference is rightly calling on those in government for support.

Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier
PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Change is possible only through dialogue and that is the aim of the MJC.

Bakir Izetbegovic
MEMBER OF PRESIDENCY,
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Muslim Jewish Conference is one of the most powerful vehicles to demonstrate that religious and cultural differences can and must be vehicles for deepening mutual discovery and respect, combatting prejudice and bigotry.

Rabbi David Rosen
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR OF
INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS, AJC

Antisemitism and Islamophobia are two sides of the same coin. At MJC they fight this menace together, for a better future of the next generation.

Jakob Finci
PRESIDENT OF INTER-RELIGIOUS,
COUNCIL BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

At MJC, young Muslim and Jewish leaders have a unique opportunity to discuss issues affecting their communities and work together towards solving them. These open dialogues are critical for creating a peaceful future.

Sally A. Painter
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER,
BLUE STAR STRATEGIES

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORTERS

Karl Kahane Foundation
AlWaleed Philanthropies
Claudio and Penny Pincus Family Foundation
Stanley & Marion Bergman Family Charitable Fund
EVZ - The Federal Foundation "Memory, Responsibility and Future"
The Russell Berrie Foundation
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation
Guerrand-Hermes Foundation for Peace
Hommes de Parole Foundation
Irving and Dorothy Rom Charitable Foundation

ODIHR - Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
Federal Foreign Office, Germany
Embassy of the United States of America , Vienna
Embassy of the United States of America, Berlin

OSCE - Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bosnia & Herzegovina
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

City of Berlin, Germany
City of Bratislava, Slovakia
City of Vienna, Austria

American University in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research
Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts, Slovakia
Institute for African Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria
Institute of International Development, University of Vienna
The Academy of Fine Arts and Design Bratislava, Slovakia

UNIQA
Vienna City Hall
Bruno Kreisky Forum, Vienna
Blue Star Strategies
Hommes de Parole Foundation, Switzerland
Jumpstart
Impact Hub Vienna
NH Hotels
Riesen Film
Sine Lege Film

SUPPORTERS OF THE MJC

PATRONAGE

2019 President Alexander Van der Bellen, Austria
2017 President Bakir Izetbegovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina
2016 President Frank Walter Steinmeier, Germany
2015 President Frank Walter Steinmeier, Germany
2013 President Bakir Izetbegovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina
2010 President Heinz Fischer, Austria

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President Bill Clinton, USA

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THE TEAM

ILJA SICHROVSKY is the Founder and Co-Director of the Muslim Jewish Conference (MJC). Born in Berlin, he is the son of a German mother and an Austrian father. His family has Jewish roots in Vienna dating back centuries with one of his Jewish ancestors being among the first Jews knighted by Franz Josef. Ilja was a counselor in Vienna's Hashomer Hatzair youth movement and was a founding member of Gesher, the youth party within the Austrian Jewish Community. Ilja represented the University of Vienna three times at international Harvard student conferences. On each occasion, he won the Harvard Award for Exemplifying the True Spirit of Diplomacy. Later, he acted as faculty adviser and coach for the Viennese delegation at several conferences. Ilja wrote a scientific article about being a Jewish student studying at an Austrian University six decades after the Holocaust. It was published by the University of Vienna and integrated into curricula. He is member of the ROI community and a recipient of the Schusterman Foundation Fellowship.

SAMI ELMANSOURY is a public speaker and writer on issues ranging from education and national security, to faith and identity politics. He currently serves on the Immigrant Rights Task Force of the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, as a Founding Member of the US Department of State's Generation Change initiative, and on the Boards of Advisors of both World Faith and the New Leaders Council of New Jersey, a nationwide fellowship that seeks to train and mentor the next generation of young leaders in both business entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship.



ALAN DOSORETZ is originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, and now lives in Israel. He is the co-founder of the Diversity Network, an Argentinean interfaith Abrahamic initiative for coexistence. In 2019, Alan completed an MA in Peace and Conflict Management at the University of Haifa. He also holds a specialization in Multi-Track Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation from the University of Maryland. In Argentina, he worked for seven years as the Executive Director of Argentina Ciudadana, a Latin American non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging citizens to become more involved in civic life. Between 2015 to 2018, Alan also worked in the Argentinean Government first at the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (2015-2017) and then at the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (2017-2018) in the National Office of Mediation and Conflict Resolution. He is a member of the ROI community, a fellow of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, and a scholar of the Topol Family Foundation.



MOHAMED ABUBAKR is the Co-Director of the Muslim Jewish Conference. He is a Sudanese human rights activist and peacemaker with a decade and a half of civil society experience. Since high school, he has founded and led organizations and initiatives focused on humanitarian, human rights, youth empowerment and peace programs across the Middle East and Africa (MEA) including in Darfur, South Sudan, Sudan, Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Territories and beyond. Mohamed has also documented, reported and mobilized against human rights abuses across MEA, and since arriving in the United States has become a sought after voice at the State Department and in Congress concerning policy and human rights issues in the region. Mohamed is the President of AMEL - The African Middle Eastern Leadership Project.

RAFAEL TYSZBLAT is an expert in conflict resolution, mediation, intercultural and interconfessional dialogue. He has been the Director of Programming at the Muslim-Jewish Conference since 2013. He recently launched the initiative of a Coalition of Civil Society Organizations for Intercultural and interconfessional dialogue through Connecting Actions and is the Innovation and Program Design Manager at Soliya, an online-based NGO promoting the field of Virtual Exchange. Rafael is also a member of the European Mediation Institute, an organization that brings certified mediators, trainers and coaches together to advance multi-disciplinary mediation practices.





Press

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