

Who is Who

High Level Conference 'Europe beyond anti-Semitism
and anti-Zionism – securing Jewish life in Europe'
Wednesday 21 November 2018

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Imprint

Event: High Level Conference 'Europe beyond anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism – securing Jewish life in Europe'

Date: 21 November 2018

Venue: Federal Chancellery, Ballhausplatz 2, 1010 Vienna
Wiener Börsensäle, Wipplingerstraße 34, 1010 Vienna

Host: Federal Chancellery of Austria



Editor: Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Version: 21 November 2018

Speakers



AUSTRIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Sebastian Kurz

Federal Chancellor

- Sebastian Kurz was sworn in as Federal Chancellor of Austria in December 2017.
- Previously he served as Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs (2013 - 2017) and State Secretary for Integration (2011 - 2013).
- He also acted as Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (2014) and Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (2017). Currently, Austria holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



AUSTRIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Heinz Fassmann

Federal Minister for Education, Science and Research

- Heinz Fassmann was sworn in as Federal Minister for Education in December 2017.
- Previously he was the Vice-Rector for Research and International Affairs (2015-2017) and Vice-Rector for Human Resources Development and International Relations (2011-2015) at the University of Vienna.
- Since 2007 he is a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.



AUSTRIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Karoline Edtstadler

State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior

- Karoline Edtstadler is State Secretary at the Ministry of the Interior since December 2017.
- Secondment to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg (2016-2017).
- Policy Adviser at the Office of the Minister of Justice (2014-2016).



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Věra Jourová

EU Commissioner for Justice and Consumers and Gender Equality

- Věra Jourová is European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality (2014-present)
- Minister for Regional Development (2014)
- Consultancy activities in the Western Balkans relating to EU accession (2006-2011)



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Manfred Weber

Chair, Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)

- Manfred Weber believes that Europe needs to stand united to assert itself on the world stage. He wants to rebuild the bridges between West and East, and North and South.
- As Chairman of the largest political Group in the European Parliament since 2014, Manfred has played a key role in making the EPP Group the most united political force in plenary. Under his Group leadership, Parliament has turned many

EPP Group proposals into law, such as the PNR directive, the new suspension mechanism for visa-free travel, the recently proposed recruitment of 10.000 additional Frontex border and coast guards and free Interrail tickets for 18-year olds. He won his re-election in 2016 with 98% of the vote.

- An engineer by trade, Manfred has established two successful start-up companies. With the values of Christian Democracy as his guide, he has been active in politics from an early age. Deeply rooted in rural Lower Bavaria, he won his first seat in the Bavarian Parliament at the age of 29. Today he is Vice-President of Bavaria's CSU, the third-largest party in Germany. Manfred lives with his wife in a small village in Lower Bavaria and he is active in various Catholic lay organisations.



AXEL SPRINGER SE | FEDERATION OF GERMAN
NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS

Mathias DÖPFNER

CEO | President

- Mathias Döpfner is CEO of the media group Axel Springer SE since January 2002 and President of the Federation of German Newspaper Publishers (BDZV).
- He became member of the management board of Axel Springer SE and head of the newspaper division in 2000.
- He started working for Axel Springer SE in 1998 as editor-in-chief of the national daily newspaper *Die Welt*.



AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

David Harris

Executive Director

- Described by the late Israeli President Shimon Peres as the 'foreign minister of the Jewish people', David Harris has led AJC (American

Jewish Committee) since 1990. David has been honored by 12 governments, including 10 European nations, for his international efforts in defense of human rights, advancement of the transatlantic partnership, and dedication to the Jewish people.

- He is widely regarded as having been among the very first people to see the resurgence of anti-Semitism, and its overlap with anti-Zionism, as early as 2000-2001, and to call on European leaders in particular to focus far greater attention on the re-emerging challenge.
- Educated at the University of Pennsylvania and London School of Economics, he has been a visiting scholar at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and Oxford University's European Studies Centre.



ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

Kenneth Jacobson

Deputy National Director

- Kenneth Jacobson, Deputy National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the formulation of policy and its implementation.
- As the Director of the International Affairs, he monitored and analyzed events affecting Jews in the Middle East, Europe and Latin America, and oversaw the ADL Jerusalem Office, which assesses first-hand issues surrounding the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well the League's presence in Vienna and Moscow.
- A graduate of Yeshiva University, where he earned the degree of Bachelor of Arts in history and Hebrew literature, he also holds a Master's degree in American history from Columbia University.



EUROPEAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Moshe Kantor

President

- Dr Moshe Kantor is a prominent Jewish leader and philanthropist. Since 2007, he has served as the President of the European Jewish Congress, the umbrella organisation representing 42 national Jewish communities in Europe.
- Moshe Kantor is known worldwide for his fight against antisemitism, racism, neo-Nazism, negationism and intolerance. He has greatly contributed to revitalizing Jewish life in Europe and beyond.
- Dr Kantor is also Chairman of the Policy Council of the World Jewish Congress, President of the World Holocaust Forum Foundation, Vice Chairman of the Council of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, President of the European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation and President of the International Luxembourg Forum on Preventing Nuclear Catastrophe.



YAD VASHEM | TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

Dina Porat

Chief Historian | Head of the Kantor Center

- Professor Dina Porat was awarded prizes for some of her many publications (including the National Jewish Book Award for the biography of Abba Kovner, published by Stanford UP), TAU's Faculty of Humanities best teacher for 2004, the Raoul Wallenberg Medal for 2012, is on the 50 leading Israeli scholars the Marker Magazine list of 2013 and on the 50 leading women in Israel list of the Forbes in 2018, and was a visiting professor in Harvard, Columbia, New York, Venice and the Hebrew university.

- Main research interests: History of the Holocaust, Zionism and the Jews of Europe, the 'Final Solution' in Lithuania, Jewish-catholic relations since World War II.
- Served as an expert on Israeli Foreign Ministry delegations to UN world conferences, and as the academic advisor of the International Task Force on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research (now IHRA).



William Shawcross

Journalist

- William Shawcross is a well-known British author. His most recent book is Justice and the Enemy - Nuremberg, Guantanamo and the Trial of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed.
- From 2012-18, he was chairman of the Charity Commission, the principal UK Government regulator of charities.
- He is now a Senior Scholar at Policy Exchange, the leading London think tank. He is writing a book on anti-Semitism and threats against Muslims.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Katharina von Schnurbein

Coordinator on combating anti-Semitism

- Katharina von Schnurbein was appointed the first European Commission Coordinator on combatting Antisemitism in December 2015. Prior to this, she worked for five years as advisor to EU Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso on the dialogue with religions and non-confessional organisations.

- Katharina started working for the European Commission in 2002 as press officer for the EU Delegation in Prague. With enlargement, she moved to Brussels as the spokesperson for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal opportunities under the responsibility of the Czech EU Commissioner Vladimír Špidla.
- She spent the academic year 2017/18 as EU Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence to research effective measures to combat Antisemitism across Europe.



EUROPEAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Ariel Muzicant

Vice President

- Currently serving as Vice President of both the European Jewish Congress (EJC) and the World Jewish Congress (WJC).
- 43 years of continued involvement in Jewish life in Vienna, in a large number of functions and institutions: President Jewish students, Founder and President of the Jewish School in Vienna (1979-1995), President Bnai Brith-ZPC Loge (1996-1998), Vice President (1981-1998) and President (1998-2012) of the Jewish Community of Vienna and Austria (IKG).
- Since 2012 President of Keren Hajessod/UJA-Austria and Honorary President of IKG.



UKRAINE

Pawlo Klimkin

Minister of Foreign Affairs

- Pawlo Klimkin was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in June 2014.
- Between 2012 and 2014 he served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Federal Republic of Germany.

- Within the Ukrainian MFA he also acted as Head of division for economic and sectoral cooperation with the EU (2002-2004), Minister-Counselor to the Embassy of Ukraine to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2004-2008), and Director of the EU Department (2008-2010).



JEWISH COMMUNITY OF VIENNA

Oskar Deutsch

President

- In 1999 he became Vice-president of the Vienna Israelite Community (Israelitische Kultusgemeinde, IKG).
- Together with Ariel Muzicant he founded Atid ('Jüdische Zukunft'), a political movement within the IKG in 1997.
- Since 1993 he is a member of the Kultusrat of the IKG.

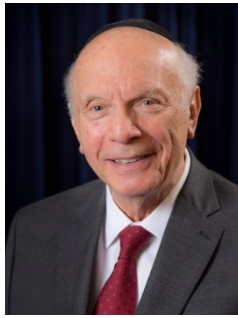


JEWISH MUSEUM VIENNA

Danielle Spera

Director

- Danielle Spera is Director of the Jewish Museum Vienna since July 2010.
- Between 1978 and 2010, she worked as journalist, news reporter and moderator for the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF)
- During her career in the ORF she also served as foreign correspondent in the Middle East and led the ORF contact office in Washington.

**PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE, NEW YORK****Arthur Schneier**

Senior Rabbi

- President and Founder, Appeal of Conscience Foundation, New York
- Senior Rabbi, Park East Synagogue, New York
- Ambassador, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

**UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA****Armin Lange**

Head of the Institute for Jewish Studies

- Armin Lange is a Professor for Jewish Studies at the University of Vienna since 2004.
- Before Vienna, he served as Associate Professor for Hebrew Bible and Dead Sea Scrolls with the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- He co-authored the 'Guidebook against anti-Semitism'.

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