



WE ARE CONNECTED.

German-Israeli **Youth** Exchange
in Past, Present and Future

**Networking Conference in
the Process of Establishing a
German-Israeli Youth Office**

For Educators and Representatives
from Youth Exchange, School Partnerships,
Vocational Trainings and Volunteer Services

November 23–27, 2025 in Berlin

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Networking Conference in the Process of Establishing a German-Israeli Youth Office

For Educators and Representatives from Youth Exchange, School Partnerships,
Vocational Trainings and Volunteer Services

November 23–27, 2025 | Berlin

German-Israeli (youth) exchange cooperations have been facing difficult times:

After October 7 encounters could hardly take place. Challenging obstacles of logistics and security issues blocked perspectives for planning ahead. Yet, many partnerships have been in close connection. They wish to maintain the cooperation, which was meaningful and important to them all these years. Therefore a considerable number of partnerships succeeded in implementing encounters with groups of young adults or professionals in youth work in Germany. Others chose creative online meet-ups in order to bring young participants together anyhow.

ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange and the Israel Youth Exchange Authority wish to open up the opportunity for exchange partnerships once again to keep in touch NOW. The Networking Conference in November 2025 shall offer a space to listen to one another and to ask questions on current developments in education and society in Israel and Germany. It shall open a space to connect and plan, and to look ahead for better times and exchange projects in 2026.

The Networking Conference 2025 signifies a further step to enhance the network of German-Israeli Youth contacts on the way of establishing a German-Israeli youth office. Therefore representatives and engaged educators of the different exchange formats of youth exchange, school partnerships, vocational trainings and volunteer services are invited to take part in this conference. The central idea is to strengthen existing and create new cooperations – YOU are welcome to join in!

The German-Israeli Networking Conference will open a space to ...

- ⌘ **address key issues** such as commemorating after October 7, combating antisemitism and fostering social cohesion in times of crisis
- ⌘ **exchange experiences** on German-Israeli cooperation in times of war and instability – and its impact on encounters and volunteer services
- ⌘ **discuss educational approaches** of working with young people on trauma and frightening life realities by strengthening resilience and offering empowerment
- ⌘ **explore current barriers** of bilateral exchange & volunteering and find supportive strategies to overcome them
- ⌘ **experience Berlin** together through guided visits and cultural events
- ⌘ **celebrate 70 years** of German-Israeli youth exchange
- ⌘ **find time, space and inspiration** to plan projects together for 2026 and beyond

Welcome to the German-Israeli Networking Conference 2025 in Berlin!



ConAct
Koordinierungszentrum
Deutsch-Israelischer Jugendaustausch
מרכז התיאום לחילופי נוער גרמניה ישראל



In cooperation with:



ישראל - גרמניה
1948 - 1949
1988 - 2025



Funded by:



Federal Ministry
for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,
Women and Youth

THE PROGRAM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

Arrival of participants from Israel

Free time according to arrival

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025

Arrival of participants from Germany

Free time for participants from Israel according to arrival

12:30 am Lunch

2:00 pm **Welcome to the German-Israeli Networking Conference 2025
by the Inviting and Cooperating Organizations**

Christine Mähler

ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

Ariella Gill

Israel Youth Exchange Authority

Dr. Hannelore Kress

*German-Israeli Programme on Cooperation in Vocational Education
and Training*

Günter Jek

*The German-Israeli Volunteer Program, Central Welfare Board
of Jews in Germany*

Getting to know in contact groups

(please check your name tag for the NUMBER)

3:30 pm Coffee & Break

4:00 pm **Opening of the German-Israeli Networking Conference 2025**

Moments of Commemoration and Hope | Greetings

Karin Prien, *German Federal Minister for Education, Family Affairs,
Senior Citizens, Women and Youth*

H.E. Ron Prosor, *Ambassador of the State of Israel*

Experience of Exchange in Challenging Times

Connecting to the German-Israeli Youth Congress 2025: Panel with young people from exchange projects & volunteer services from Israel and Germany

Omri Auerbach, *former volunteer, German-Israeli Volunteer Service
(The Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany)*

Louisa Berneiser, *exchange project of the Municipality of Frankfurt*
Justus Brunner, *former volunteer, German-Israeli Volunteer Service
(The Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany)*

Tamir Bar Eli, *Maccabi Tzair – Youth, Sport & Community*

Eduard Gürtler, *German Youth Hostel Association*

Hilay Luok, *Israeli Youth Hostel Association*

Moderation:

Christine Mähler, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Tal Madar, *Council of Youth Movements in Israel*

5:30 pm **Coffee & Break**

6:00 pm **Good Practice in Challenging Times**

Workshops & project presentations by bilateral exchange partnerships

(Please check your name tag for the LETTER)

A. Forgive Me for Asking!

*Anonymous Question Method To Talk About Sensitive Topics After October 7
Tel Aviv Municipality (Israel) & City of Leipzig – Kinder- und JugendKultur-
Werkstatt JOJO (Cultural Youth Center, Germany)*

B. How Do Youth Organizations Build Resilience and Hope in Times of Crisis?

Council of Youth Movements in Israel & German Federal Youth Council

C. Stepping Into Their Shoes: Building Understanding Across Divides

*Exploring Identity, History and Trust Through the Eyes of Young Participants
Givat Haviva (Israel) & Building Bridges Association (Germany)*

D. Bridges That Last: Building Sustainable Partnerships Across Borders

Learning What Makes International Partnerships Strong and Lasting
Givat Shmuel Community Center/Municipality of Givat Shmuel (Israel)
& *Hanseatic City of Stade (Germany)*

E. Shared Commemoration of the Shoah After October 7

Discussing Experiences and Challenges of Memorial Education
After October 7

Tel Aviv Municipality (Israel) & *Lower Saxony Memorials Foundation –*
Bergen-Belsen Memorial (Germany)

F. The Power of Humanity: From the Unforgotten Story to a Changing Action

Connecting Historical Lessons With Empathy and Inclusion Today

Emek Hefer Regional Council (Israel)/District Youth Council
Siegen-Wittgenstein (Germany)

G. Recognize – Respond – Act

Turning Awareness Into Action Against Hate and for Respect and Belonging
Israel Youth Hostel Association & Mizpe Ramon Community Center (Israel)
& *German Youth Hostel Association*

H. Have Fun Exploring Global Supply Chains With the VET Chain Tool!

Exploring Fair, Sustainable Production With an Interactive Tool

GOVET/VET Chain – German-Israeli Programme on Cooperation in Vocational
Education and Training

I. Theater Connects

Using Theater Methods To Build Bridges Through Play and
Creative Expression

Yoram Loewenstein Acting School (Tel Aviv, Israel) & Open Art Association
Potsdam (Germany)

J. Resilient Together: The Path To Trust and Collaboration in Uncertain Times

Exploring Tools for Trust, Empathy, and Resilience in Partnerships

The Goodha (Israel) & Land und Leute e. V. (Germany)

7:30 pm Dinner

8:30 pm **The Caravan Chamber Orchestra & Choir – Young People Explore East European Jewish (Yiddish), East Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Music Traditions**
A German-Israeli exchange cooperation in concert

Opening of the Cultural Evening

Member of the German-Israeli Parliamentary Group at the German Federal Parliament, Deutscher Bundestag (requested)

Guidance through the evening:

Polina Sheperd & Andreas Schmittges, *Other Music Academy/University of Music FRANZ LISZT, Weimar (Germany) & Department of Music at the University of Haifa (Israel)*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2025

9:00 am **German-Israeli Encounters and Discourses – Insights and Voices From Both Countries**
Parallel forums with mixed panels and discussion circles on the following topics *(Please check your name tag for the COLOR)*

● Commemorating Together. Reflecting the Past – Building the Future

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Monika Brockhaus, *Commemoration Site of Bergen-Belsen*
Daniel Kaufmann, *High School Berlin-Neukölln*
Noa David, *Commemoration Center Beit Terezin*
Efrat Simenhaus-Shafran, *Regional Council Emek Hefer*

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS:

A. Traces of Humanity – Acts of Compassion & Solidarity in the Theresienstadt Ghetto

Noa David + Hani Pultorak, *Commemoration Center Beit Terezin*

B. Remember Together – Reflect and Discuss Challenges, Opportunities & Needs

Monika Brockhaus + Mattis Binner, *Commemoration Site of Bergen-Belsen*
Tlalit Kitsoni, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

MODERATION & HOSTS OF THE FORUM:

Tlalit Kitsoni, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*
Mattis Binner, *Lower Saxony Memorials Foundation*

● Education in Times of Crisis – For Resilience and Solidarity

INPUT:

Guy Zuzut, *Community Center Beit Dani Tel Aviv*

Melanie Schütz, *German Federal Youth Council*

TED-TALK:

Iris Wolf, *Hamal Ezrahi – Brothers & Sisters for Israel*

Robert Kreibig und Ruchama Stern, *Land und Leute e. V. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern*

Liron Glam, *Regional Council Lev Hasharon*

Joachim Kühnel and Alon Meller, *Music Association Brandis – Israel Music Experience*

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS:

A. Tools for Developing Mental Resilience in National Trauma Events

Limor Turkel, *NATAL – Israel Trauma & Resiliency Center*

B. Resilience and Youth Exchange – Educators' Exchange Room

Niclas Cares, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

MODERATION & HOSTS OF THE FORUM:

Niclas Cares, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Shlomit Ronen-Livne, *Council of Youth Movements in Israel*

● Education for Democracy and Social Cohesion – Against Discrimination, Antisemitism and Racism

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Rosa Fava, *Intersectional Education in the Migration Society (IBIM)*

Lior Bachar, *Democratic School of Hadera, Israel*

Laura Cazés, *Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany*

Muhammad Maraana, *Mabat – Awareness in Multicultural Society*

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS:

A. Intersection of Education Against Antisemitism and Racism – Challenges, Commonalities and Dilemmas in Educational Practice

Rosa Fava, *IBIM*

B. Political Education in Challenging Times

Members of the Council of Youth Movements in Israel

MODERATION & HOSTS OF THE FORUM:

Ilira Aliai, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Tal Madar, *Council of Youth Movements in Israel*

● Digital Tools in Education – Artificial Intelligence Guiding Ways Into the Future?

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Milena Scheidler, *Education Center for Vocational School Teachers in Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany*

Shahar Ezer, *Lnet Learning Technologies LTD, Bat Yam, Israel*

Dr. Michael Scharp, *IZT – Institute for Future Studies and Technology Assessment, Berlin, Germany*

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS:

A. Hands-on workshop with Canva AI

Shahar Ezer, *Lnet Learning Technologies LTD, Bat Yam, Israel*

B. Digital Tools in (Vocational) Education – Artificial Intelligence Guiding Ways into a Sustainable Future!

Dr. Michael Scharp, *IZT – Institute for Future Studies and Technology Assessment, Berlin, Germany*

MODERATION & HOSTS OF THE FORUM:

Falko Kliewe, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Shahar Ezer, *Lnet Learning Technologies LTD, Bat Yam, Israel*

● Celebrating 60 Years of Diplomatic Relations – 70 Years of Youth Exchange

(with consecutive translation German and Hebrew)

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Constantin Ganß, *German-Israeli Society, Germany*

Meyrav Kopito, *Municipality of Rishon LeZion, Israel*

Prof. Dr. Manfred Lämmer, *German-Sport University Cologne, Germany*

Naftali Dery, *Council of Youth Movements in Israel, Board of the Israel Youth Exchange Authority*

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS:

A. Life and Work of Young People from Germany and Israel.

50 Years of Partnership Agreement Between Histadrut and the DGB

Daniel Chard, *Histadrut*

B. Presentation of the Study “Resonances – The German-Israeli Cultural Relations” (2025)

Gila Baumöhl, *Institute for New Social Sculptures*

MODERATION & HOSTS OF THE FORUM:

Keren Pardo, *The Kibbutz Movement*

Dr. Jonas Hahn, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Coffee & Break – as part of the forum

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 pm **Experience Berlin**

(Please check your name tag for the TITLE)

- ⚡ **Jewish Museum Berlin** – Guided tour through the highlights of various exhibitions *(Please bring your ID with you)*
 - ⚡ **German Historical Museum** – Guided tour of the exhibition “Roads Not Taken – Turning Points in German History 1989–1848”
 - ⚡ **Berlin Wall Memorial** at Bernauer Straße – Guided tour of the memorial
 - ⚡ **Anne Frank Center** – Guided tour of the exhibition and walking tour on Jewish life in the area around Hackescher Markt
 - ⚡ Think Tank **Schalom Aleikum** – Discussion on perspectives of cooperation in the context of Jewish-Muslim dialogue
 - ⚡ **Zusammen Center** – A Home for the Israeli Community in Berlin – Meeting and discussion about the Israeli community in Berlin
 - ⚡ **Fränkelufer Synagogue** – Visit to the synagogue, meeting, and discussion about Jewish life in Berlin today
 - ⚡ **City Walk** – Berlin as a Center of Politics and Commemoration – Guided tour on commemoration culture and politics
 - ⚡ **German Resistance Memorial Center** – Guided tour of the permanent exhibition with a focus on resistance by young and Jewish people
 - ⚡ **Lehrbauhof Berlin** – Training Center of the Construction Association – inter-company training hub for construction trades, focusing on dual training, integration of vulnerable groups
-

5:00 pm Coffee & Break

5:30 pm **Workshops & Exchange Café To Support YOUR Exchange Activities**

- ⚡ **Education & Encounter after October 7 – Experience New Materials of the Toolkit**
Tlalit Kitsoni, ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange
- ⚡ **Understanding Antisemitism. Empowering Educators**
Alexa Altmann, OFEK e. V. Counseling Center for Antisemitic Violence and Discrimination
- ⚡ **Acting Against Antisemitism! – Experience New Methods From the Handbook**
Judith Schweiger, ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

:: Come and Meet! The Match-Making Program for New Partnerships – Insights Into the Program

Niclas Cares, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

:: German-Israeli Youth Exchange – Practice & Funding – How to Use the Handbook “Experience Exchange”

Jonas Hahn, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

:: People of the Book – People of the Story

Lindsay Shapiro & Sharon Hayat, *ANU – Museum of the Jewish People*

:: Evaluating Your German-Israeli Youth Exchange – Introduction to the Online Tool i-EVAL

Falko Kliewe, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

:: Securing Tomorrow’s Skilled Workforce – How German-Israeli Solidarity Can Strengthen Vocational Education

Janine Frommann & Fotoni Curti, *Hamburg Institute for Vocational Education and Training*

:: Additionally, the Exchange Café is a space to meet your partner and opportunity for advisory support for planning and funding.

7:00 pm Dinner

8:30 pm **Get Together – Experience Exchange – Meet New Partner Organizations: Choose Your Corner to Meet, Match, Inspire, Enjoy**

Evening for presentations, networking, exchange of ideas, insights and personal encounters with music & snacks

Opening

Asaf Cohen, *German Head of the Mixed Commission on German-Israeli Youth Exchange, Chairman of the Israel Youth Exchange Authority*

Moderation: **Christine Mähler & Sabine Troitzsch**, *ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange*

Music

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2025

9:00 am **What Do We Need to Renew Our Practice in Exchange Programs and Return on the Path Into the Future?**

Open space for urgent topics – the floor is open for YOUR topics, questions and new ideas

- ⌘ Which plans for encounters would you like to share?
- ⌘ Which urgent questions would you like to discuss?
- ⌘ Which urgent insights would you like to share?
- ⌘ Which new ideas do you wish to find partners for?
- ⌘ Which new impulses would you like to turn into action?

MODERATION:

Tobias & Wibke Heinemann, *“ipunct – ideen auf den punkt gebracht”*

11:15 am **Presenting Outcomes, Plans, Visions**

Closing the open space in a plenary session

12:00 am **Contact Groups: Reflecting the Experiences at the Exchange Conference**

(Please check your name tag for the NUMBER)

1:15 am **Closing the German-Israeli Networking Conference**

Plenary session

1:30 pm **Lunch**

*Free time & time for partnerships to plan ahead
Departure of participants from Germany*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

Departure of participants from Israel

Further information on the forums and workshops:

Monday, November 24, 6:00 am

Good Practice in Challenging Times

Workshops & project presentations by bilateral exchange partnerships

(Please check your name tag for the LETTER)

A. Forgive Me for Asking!

Anonymous Question Method To Talk About Sensitive Topics After October 7

(Room: Tessin 1)

Since the Hamas attack on Israel on the 7th of October 2023 the effects have also been felt in Youth exchanges. There is a great uncertainty due to political developments in Israel and Germany. What can you say without being stigmatized? What questions can you ask without hurting your partner? In our last youth exchange in Autumn 2025, we used a method inspired by an Israeli TV show, allowing participants to ask questions anonymously. We invite you to experience this approach and engage in a discussion during our workshop.

Tel Aviv Municipality (Israel) & City of Leipzig – Kinder- und JugendKulturWerkstatt (Youth Cultural Center) JOJO (Germany)

B. How Do Youth Organizations Build Resilience and Hope in Times of Crisis?

(Room: Tessin 2)

Youth organizations and movements have always emerged from times of crisis, chaos, and uncertainty. Today, they continue to play a vital role in helping young people find space, purpose, and meaning amid societal challenges and democratic backlashes. This workshop invites participants to reflect on how youth organizations respond to crises. Together, we will explore how youth work can foster resilience and hope, drawing on practical examples. The session will encourage exchange and collective reflection on how youth actors can navigate and shape turbulent times.

Council of Youth Movements in Israel (CYMI) & German Federal Youth Council (DBJR)

C. Stepping into Their Shoes: Building Understanding Across Divides

Exploring Identity, History and Trust Through the Eyes of Young Participants

(Room: Davos 2)

In just a few days, 32 high school students — Jewish, Druze, German, and Polish — will come together in Berlin for the project 'Let's Talk About Identity.' They will meet for the first time to explore who they are, how history shapes them, and what it means to build trust in times of deep division. Today, we'll step into their shoes — for 90 minutes.

Givat Haviva (Israel) & Building Bridges e. V. (Germany)

D. Bridges That Last: Building Sustainable Partnerships Across Borders

Learning What Makes International Partnerships Strong and Lasting

(Room: Davos 1)

For over 40 years, Givat Shmuel (Israel), Stade (Germany), and Goldap (Poland) have built a living example of partnership that endures through challenges – from the pandemic to times of conflict. In this workshop, we will explore what makes partnerships strong and sustainable, learn from real stories, and experience interactive methods to create new connections. Join us to discover the Ten Commandments of Partnership and meet others who are ready to build the next 40 years of cooperation.

Givat Shmuel Community Center/Municipality of Givat Shmuel (Israel) & Hanseatic City of Stade (Germany)

E. Shared Commemoration of the Shoah After October 7

Discussing Experiences and Challenges of Memorial Education After October 7

(Room: Tessin 3)

In autumn 2024, educators from the Municipality of Tel Aviv and people active in memorial education from Lower Saxony met at the Bergen-Belsen Memorial – one year after the October 7 attacks. We will share our experiences from this exchange and talk about the motivation and emotions of organizing such a program so soon after the events. What went well? What was difficult?

We will reflect on key questions such as:

- Dealing with the past and teaching about National Socialism in today's context
- The challenges of youth exchanges after October 7
- The role of memorial sites in times of rising discrimination
- Building bridges between Germany and Israel despite different realities

Tel Aviv Municipality (Israel) & Foundation Lower Saxony Memorials – Bergen-Belsen Memorial (Germany)

F. The Power of Humanity: From the Unforgotten Story to a Changing Action

Connecting Historical Lessons With Empathy and Inclusion Today

(Room: Chur 1)

Step into a powerful dialogue between past and present. The Power of Humanity brings together Israeli and German teenagers to uncover the human stories behind the Nazi T4 program — and to ask what these lessons mean for our society today. Through thought-provoking dilemmas, teamwork, and creative reflection, participants will explore how inclusion, empathy, and moral courage can shape a better future. Together, we'll turn memory into action — and discover how even the smallest step can create meaningful change.

Emek Hefer Regional Council (Israel)/District Youth Council Siegen-Wittgenstein e. V. (Germany)

G. Recognize – Respond – Act

Turning Awareness Into Action Against Hate and for Respect and Belonging (Room: Chur 2)

Join fellow educators and youth leaders for a dynamic workshop that turns awareness into action. Through shared experiences and practical tools, we'll explore how to stand up to hate and build a culture of respect and belonging. Change starts when we face it — together.

*Israel Youth Hostel Association (IYHA) & Mizpe Ramon Community Center (Israel)
& German Youth Hostel Association*

H. Have Fun Exploring Global Supply Chains with the VET Chain Tool!

Exploring Fair, Sustainable Production With an Interactive Tool (Room: St. Moritz)

Join us for an engaging workshop where we will explore the complexities of global supply chains. Learn how to qualify personnel to produce and deliver goods and services that are both fair and sustainable along these chains. The VET Chain Tool for international is designed to highlight the people behind production and service provision. Participants will work together to find innovative solutions to improve processes, discussing working conditions, environmental challenges and social issues along the way and trace the journey of a 'Made in Israel' product as it makes its way to shops in Germany.

GOVET/VET Chain – German-Israeli Programme on Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training

I. Theater Connects.

Using Theater Methods To Build Bridges Through Play and Creative Expression (Room: Chur 3)

This workshop invites you to explore theater as a bridge in international youth work. Together, we will try out simple theater exercises focusing on nonverbal communication, group building, and creative expression. Experience how shared play and performance can create connection beyond language and culture.

*Yoram Loewenstein acting school in Tel Aviv (Israel) & Open Art Association
Potsdam e. V. (Germany)*

J. Resilient Together: The Path to Trust and Collaboration in Uncertain Times

Exploring Tools for Trust, Empathy, and Resilience in Partnerships (Room: Winterthur)

In an era of uncertainty, authentic partnerships are built not through control but through presence, empathy, and inner leadership. This experiential workshop invites you to explore practical tools for cultivating trust, flexibility, and emotional stability within teams and cross-cultural collaborations. Through real stories from the field and mentoring-based exercises, you will discover how clarity, boundaries, and conscious choice create the foundation for resilient communication.

The Goodha (Israel) & Land und Leute e. V. (Germany)

Tuesday, November 25, 9:00 am

German-Israeli Encounters and Discourses – Insights and Voices From Both Countries

Parallel forums with mixed panels and discussion circles on the following topics

(Please check your name tag for the COLOR)

● **Commemorating Together. Reflecting the Past – Building the Future**

(Room: Tessin 1)

What are the main challenges in commemoration work within German Israeli Youth Exchange, how can we respond to them, and what tools or resources are needed for meaningful encounters? This forum invites professionals from German-Israeli youth exchanges and remembrance work to explore current challenges, share tools, and exchange ideas for meaningful encounters. An expert panel and two interactive workshops will offer space for reflection, dialogue, and inspiration for future exchanges.

● **Education in Times of Crisis – For Resilience and Solidarity**

(Room: Ballsaal)

This forum explores resilience and solidarity in the context of German-Israeli youth exchange. What challenges do young people face today, and how can youth work and exchange programs offer support and create safe spaces? Together with experts on resilience and on youth exchange, we will reflect on educational approaches. The session includes expert inputs followed by two workshops – one on trauma and resilience, one centered on participants' experiences.

● **Education for Democracy and Social Cohesion – Against Discrimination, Antisemitism and Racism**

(Room: Davos 1 + 2)

Democracy and social cohesion are shared concerns in both Germany and Israel. In the aftermath of October 7, educators are challenged to create spaces where diverse identities, stories, and experiences can be heard and respected. This forum begins with a practical workshop on inclusive and democratic education, followed by a panel discussion with experts exploring ways to counter antisemitism, racism and division in both diverse societies of Germany and Israel.

● **Digital Tools in Education – Artificial Intelligence Guiding Ways into the Future?**

(Room: Tessin 2)

How is artificial intelligence transforming the way we teach and learn? This forum brings together experts and practitioners to explore opportunities and challenges of AI in education. A lively panel discussion will open the debate, followed by two in-depth workshops focusing on learning through gaming apps and the role of AI in vocational education.

● **Celebrating 60 years of Diplomatic Relations – 70 Years of Youth Exchange** (Room: Tessin 3)

In 2025 we mark 60 years of German-Israeli diplomatic relations and 70 years of youth exchange. This forum will explore how these exchanges have shaped the relationship between both countries, the challenges faced, and future perspectives. The program includes a panel discussion with historical and current insights, followed by two workshops: one on the long-standing cooperation between Histadrut and DGB, and one on German-Israeli cultural relations.

Tuesday, November 25, 5:30 pm

Workshops & Exchange Café To Support YOUR Exchange Activities

:: Education & Encounter after October 7 – Experience New Materials of the Toolkit (Room: Tessin 1)

Workshop by ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

In this workshop we will present newly developed material of the Toolkit “Education and Encounter After October 7.” The updated content – including artistic images, interviews, and methodological impulses – illustrates how the events of October 7, 2023 continue to shape the lives of young people and society in Israel today. A new video series brings the voices of young Israelis 2 years after October 7 into the educational work, offering authentic insights into their experiences and perspectives.

:: Understanding Antisemitism. Empowering Educators (Room: Tessin 2)

Workshop by OFEK e.V. Counseling Center for Antisemitic Violence and Discrimination

This workshop explores antisemitism as a structural and historical phenomenon and examines how it manifests in contemporary contexts. Participants will gain practical strategies and educational tools to address antisemitism effectively within their programs. Through guided discussions and case-based learning, the workshop aims to strengthen participants’ awareness, confidence, and skills in fostering respectful, inclusive dialogue.

:: Acting Against Antisemitism! – Experience New Methods From the Handbook (Room: Tessin 3)

Workshop ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

In this workshop we will present methods used in educating against antisemitism within the German-Israeli Youth Exchange. These newly developed materials place the developments following October 7 and their consequences at the center of educational work. They encourage critical, fact-based engagement around the Middle East conflict and the war and are designed to support educators in addressing antisemitism – both among professionals and with young people.

:: Come and Meet! The Match-Making Program for New Partnerships – Insights Into the Program

(Room: Davos 1)

Workshop by ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

This workshop will explore how new partnerships in German-Israeli youth exchange can be established. It will introduce the Match-Making Program offered by ConAct and the IYEA. The program connects emerging partnerships and invites them to two seminars in Israel and Germany, where they receive support in developing their own exchange projects.

:: German-Israeli Youth Exchange – Practice & Funding – How to Use the Handbook “Experience Exchange”

(Room: Davos 2)

Workshop by ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange

During the workshop the German-Hebrew handbook “Planning Together – Experiencing Exchange” will be presented. The handbook provides support in planning and realizing German-Israeli youth exchange programs – from the first ideas to the final follow-up meeting.

:: People of the Book – People of the Story

(Room: Winterthur)

Workshop by ANU Museum of the Jewish People, Tel Aviv, Israel

Join us for an innovative workshop that harnesses the universal language of family photographs to explore one’s cultural history. Transcending linguistic and cultural barriers, family photos serve as uniquely accessible primary sources that resonate across diverse audiences. This hands-on session demonstrates how to analyze visual elements like fashion, positioning, and generational relationships in family photos to illuminate broader narratives about migration, modernization, and changing identities. Participants will learn practical techniques for engaging their learners through interactive methodologies including re-discovery, re-enactment, and recreation activities.

:: Securing Tomorrow’s Skilled Workforce: How German-Israeli Solidarity Can Strengthen Vocational Education

(Room: Chur 1)

Workshop by Hamburg Institute for Vocational Education and Training

In an era of demographic change, the German vocational training system is facing significant challenges, most notably a tangible shortage of apprentices. This interactive workshop frames the current crisis not as a German problem, but as an opportunity for a deeper German-Israeli partnership. Following a brief introductory presentation, we aim to discuss with you how we can learn from each other and strengthen the resilience of our educational systems through exchange programs. Together, we will develop concrete ideas for cooperative projects to secure the skilled workforce of tomorrow.

Participating Partnerships in German-Israeli Youth and School Exchange

ANU – Museum of the Jewish People, Israel	several cooperation in Germany
Atid Raziel School, Israel	Eduard-Breuninger-School, Backnang, Germany
Atidna Youth Organisation, Israel	German Scouts Association Berlin
Atidna Youth Organisation, Israel	Kinderring Berlin – Children’s Association Berlin, Germany
Atidna Youth Organisation, Israel	Youth Organisation “Mieke Meier”, Neuss, Germany
Ayanot Youth Village, Neurim Youth Village, Israel	Children and Youth Aliyah, Germany
Beit Ben Yehuda Education Center, Jerusalem	Action Reconciliation Service for Peace, Germany
Beit HaMusica Yizrael – Music Education, Gilboa, Israel	J-ArtEck, Youth Education Center, Berlin, Germany
Beit Shemesh Municipality, Israel/ Beit Shemesh Community Center, Israel	SJD-Die Falken – Socialist Youth, District Bochum, Germany/City of Bochum – International Youth Work Department, Germany
Circus Akro – Emek, Israel	Circus Project CABUWAZI, Berlin, Germany
CYMI – Council of Youth Movements in Israel	German Federal Youth Council (DBJR)
Democratic School of Hadera, Israel	Protestant Church, Wittenberg, Germany
Department of Music, University of Haifa, Israel	Other Music Academy, Weimar, Germany
Dialog, Institute for Intercultural Meetings, Herzliya, Israel	AWO – Workers’ Welfare, District Potsdam, Germany
East Netanya Community Center, Israel	City Youth Council, Buxtehude, Germany
East Netanya Community Center, Israel	Volunteer Agency, Halle (Saale), Germany
Emek Efer Regional Council, Israel	District Youth Council Siegen-Wittgenstein, Germany
Emek Efer Regional Council, Israel	Radebeul Handball Association, Germany

Emek Yizrael College, Emek Hefer/Beit Rutenberg Haifa	Ebenezer Relief Fund, Germany
Emek Yizrael College, Emek Hefer/Beit Rutenberg Haifa	Stuttgart Regional Authority, Germany/ Network SCORA – Schools Opposing Racism and Antisemitism, Germany
Ghetto Fighter House, LoChamei HaGetaot, Israel	Lower Saxony Memorials Foundation – Bergen-Belsen Memorial, Germany
Givat Haviva, Education Center, Israel	Association “Building Bridges”, Berlin, Germany
Haihud Hahaklai – Agricultural Youth Union, Israel	Landjugend – Rural Youth, Berlin Brandenburg District, Germany
HaShomer HaTzair Youth Movement, Israel	Hashomer Hatzair Youth Movement, Germany
HaShomer HaTzair Youth Movement, Israel	SJD – Die Falken, Socialist Youth of Germany
Havayat HaMuzika, Experience Music, Israel	Music School Brandis, Germany
Histadrut – General Organization of Workers in Israel	DGB Youth (Trade Union Youth Organization), Germany
Histadrut Leumi – Noar Leumi (National Trade Union Youth), Israel	dbb – Youth (Organization of the German Federation of Civil Service), Germany
Ish Shalom High School, Kfar Yona Municipality, Israel	Vocational School Georg-Mendheim, Oranienburg, Germany
Israel Youth Hostel Association	German Youth Hostel Association
Israel Youth Hostel Association/Mizpe Ramon Community Center, Israel	German Scouts Association, Berlin
Kibbutz Magen, Israel	City of Grimma, Germany/Diaconia – Church Social Services, Leipzig District, Germany
Kibbutz Movement, Israel	Diaconia – Church Social Services, Leipzig District, Germany
Kibbutz Movement, Israel	IJGD – International Youth Community Services, Berlin, Germany
Kiryat Ono Community Center, Israel	Regional Youth Council Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
LGBTQ Center, Tel Aviv Yafo, Israel	Queer Network Gifhorn, Germany

Mabat - Awareness in Multicultural Society, Haifa, Israel	SJD-Die Falken – Socialist Youth, District Bochum, Germany / City of Bochum – International Youth Work Department, Germany
Mabat – Awareness in Multicultural Society, Israel	City of Hamburg, Social Welfare Authority
Mabat - Awareness in Multicultural Society, Israel	HaShomer HaTzair Youth Movement, Germany
Mabat – Awareness in Multicultural Society, Israel	Schreberjugend – Community Garden Youth Movement, Germany
Maccabi Sport Organisation, Israel	German Sport Youth
Maccabi Sport Organisation, Yad Moderchai, Israel	Sports Council Ravensburg, Germany
Metukenet – Educational Initiative, Israel	IAK – International Working Group, Germany
Mitzpe Hila, Israel	Protestant Church of Menden, Germany
Municipality of Ashkelon, Israel	G SJ – Sports Culture Association, Berlin-Pankow, Germany
Municipality of Givat Shmuel, Israel	City of Stade, Germany
Municipality of Holon, Israel/Community and Recreation Network-Holon	Education Center wannseeFORUM Foundation, Berlin, Germany
Municipality of Jerusalem, Israel	Bavarian Youth Exchange Foundation, Germany
Municipality of Jerusalem, Israel	City of Oberhausen, Germany
Municipality of Jerusalem, Israel	Network SCORA – Schools Opposing Racism and Antisemitism, Germany
Municipality of Kiryat Bialik, Israel	City of Chemnitz, Germany
Municipality of Kiryat Bialik, Israel	District Office Steglitz-Zehlendorf, Berlin, Germany / Dreilinden-Secondary School Wannsee, Berlin
Municipality of Maalot Tarshiha, Israel	Academy “Biggesee”, Attendorn, Germany
Municipality of Magar – Sports department, Israel	Municipality of Liebenburg, Germany

Municipality of Rishon LeZion, Israel	City of Hamburg, Social Welfare Authority/German-Israeli History Project, Hamburg, Germany
Municipality of Tel Aviv Yafo, Israel	City of Leipzig, Youth Center JOJO, Germany
Municipality of Tel Aviv Yafo, Israel	Lower Saxony Memorials Foundation – Bergen-Belsen Memorial, Germany
Municipality of Tel Aviv Yafo, Israel/ Community Center Beit Dani, Tel Aviv, Israel/ Arab Jewish community Center, Tel Aviv, Israel	Youth and Social Welfare Office Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Natal – Israel Trauma & Resiliency Center	Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Germany
Natal – Israel Trauma & Resiliency Center	Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany, Psychology Department
National organization for victims of Terror, Israel	Land und Leute (Land & People) Education Center, Röbel, Germany
Nes Ammim (Dialogue Center)/Kibbuz Manor Kabri, Israel	DIG (German Israeli Friendship Association), Germany
NOAL – Working and Learning Youth, Israel	SJD – Die Falken, Socialist Youth of Germany
Oded High School, Israel	Welfen School Weingarten, Ravensburg, Germany
Oranim Academic College of Education, Israel	Region Hannover, Vocational School Alice Salomon, Germany
Rabin High School, Tel Mond, Israel	Ebenezer Relief Fund, Germany/ Secondary School Öjendorf, Hamburg
Regional Council Brenner, Israel	German Sport Youth
Regional Council Lev HaSharon, Israel	Friends Association of Israel Travelers, Germany
Regional Council, Ramat Negev, Israel	Fritz Bauer Institute, Germany
SELA. The Performing Arts Studio founded by Yoram Loewenstein, Israel	Open Art Association, Potsdam, Germany
Society for Advancement of Education, Israel	Community Full-day School “Geschwister-Scholl”, Bensheim, Germany
The Goodha – Working on Trauma and Resilience, Israel	Land und Leute (Land & People Association) Education Center, Röbel, Germany

The Green Village Chess Academy, Ramat HaSharon, Israel	Hamburger Schachclub 1830, Germany
The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)	Kleiner Muck - Open Youth and Family Work, Germany
The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)	Youth Section of the German Alpine Club, Germany
Tzofim Olami – Israeli Scouts Federation	VCP – Christian Girls Guides and Boys Scouts Association
Upper Gallilee Regional Council, Israel	Youth Section of the German Alpine Club, Germany
WIZO – Children and Youth Village Hadassim, Israel	Elly-Heuss-Knapp-School Neumünster, Germany
WIZO – Children and Youth Village Hadassim, Israel	Protestant Church, Brück, Germany
Zikaron BaSalon, Germany	Zikaron Basalon, Israel

Partners from Germany and Israel in the Field of Vocational Education

- ✿ Ministry of Labor, Israel
- ✿ Ministry of Education, Israel
- ✿ BIBB – Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Germany
- ✿ Hamburg Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Germany
- ✿ Histadrut – General Organization of Workers in Israel
- ✿ Histadrut Leumi – Noar Leumi, Israel
- ✿ Lnet Learning Technologies LTD, Israel
- ✿ Vocational School Georg Mendheim, Oranienburg, Germany – Emek Yizrael College/ Ish Shalom High School, Kfar Yona, Israel
- ✿ Region Hannover, Vocational School Alice Salomon, Germany – Oranim Academic College of Education, Israel
- ✿ Elly-Heuss-Knapp-School, Neumünster, Germany – WIZO Children and Youth Village Hadassim, Israel
- ✿ Paul-Spiegel-Vocational School, Warendorf, Germany
- ✿ Verden Vocational Schools, Germany
- ✿ Eidelstedt Vocational School, Germany
- ✿ Vocational College St. Pauli, Hamburg, Germany

Participating Institutions and Partnerships active in the field of German Israeli Volunteer Service

DIFD – German-Israeli Volunteer Service (ZWST – Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany), Germany	VOIS – Volunteer Program, Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs, Israel
Beit Ben Yehuda – Educational Center, Jerusalem, Israel	Action Reconciliation Service for Peace (ARSP / Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste), Germany
Friends of Waldorf Education – German Federation for Rudolf Steiner Pedagogy, Germany	VOIS – Volunteer Program, Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs, Israel
IJGD – International Youth Community Services, Berlin, Germany	The Kibbutz Movement, Israel
Janusz Korczak Academy, Munich, Germany	VOIS – Volunteer Program, Israeli Ministry of Social Affairs, Israel
TAMLI Association – Support for Therapeutic Homes in Israel, Germany	Beit Uri Afula, Israel

Partners Ready to Further Explore the Field of German-Israeli Exchanges

- ✿ Amit Comprehensive School Gimel, Rishon LeZion, Israel
- ✿ Amal Educational Network, Israel
- ✿ Atid Razel School, Israel
- ✿ Beit Terezin – Terezin Documentation Center, Israel
- ✿ Dror Education Center–Lev HaSharon, Israel
- ✿ Emek Yizrael College, Israel
- ✿ Eshkol Regional Council, Israel
- ✿ Even Yehuda Community Center, Israel
- ✿ Geschwister Graf Comprehensive School, Germany
- ✿ HaMaccabi HaTzair Youth Movement, Israel
- ✿ Hamal Ezrahi – Brothers and Sisters for Israel, Israel
- ✿ Israel Association of Community Centers
- ✿ Krembo Wings Youth Movement, Israel
- ✿ Megiddo Regional Council, Israel

- ⌘ Misgav College of sport education, Israel
- ⌘ Moshav Tkuma, Israel
- ⌘ Municipality of Ramat Yishay, Israel
- ⌘ Municipality of Rosh Haayin, Israel
- ⌘ Municipality of Tamra, Israel
- ⌘ Na'amat Education Network, Israel
- ⌘ Pardesia Community Center, Israel
- ⌘ Paul-Spiegel Vocational College of Warendorf District, Germany
- ⌘ Regional Council Zvulun, Israel
- ⌘ Steinberg Music Center Holon, Israel
- ⌘ Tarbut Youth Movement, Israel
- ⌘ The Israel Conservatory of Music
- ⌘ Theorella – Education Center, Germany/Italy
- ⌘ Vocational School Eidelstedt, Germany
- ⌘ Vocational School Osterholz-Scharmbeck, Germany
- ⌘ Vocational Schools Verden, Germany
- ⌘ Yolam Association, Germany

Inviting organisations:

ConAct – Coordination Center for German-Israeli Youth Exchange is the nationwide service and information center for the promotion, support, and further development of German-Israeli youth contacts. ConAct provides financial and educational support to around 300 projects with approximately 7,000 participants in extracurricular education and exchange work each year, builds networks, and establishes new exchange partnerships between Germany and Israel. Since 2019, ConAct has been entrusted with developing projects in the process of establishing a German-Israeli Youth Organization. ConAct is an institution of the Federal Ministry of Education, Family, Seniors, Women, and Youth with the support of the states of Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.



The Israel Youth Exchange Authority (IYEA) is the coordinating office in Israel and the partner organization of ConAct–Coordination Center for German-Israeli Youth Exchange. On December 31st 1972, the Israeli government recommended to establish the formation of a non-profit public organization, consisting of approximately 80 representatives of different active organizations in the field of youth and young adults, in order to promote and coordinate youth exchanges between Israel and Germany. The exchanges are carried out by the organizations with the Authority's support. The Authority operates in collaboration with of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education.



In cooperation with:

German-Israeli Programme on Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training enables apprentices, specialists and managers to take part in cross-border learning and practical placements, promotes innovative approaches in collaboration with educational institutions and strengthens the international networking of vocational education and training systems. As part of the German-Israeli educational landscape, the German-Israeli Programme is aimed specifically at vocational training institutions that are committed to exchange, qualification and cooperation.



The German-Israeli Volunteer Service is a program of the **Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany e. V.** and was established 2015. It is aimed at young people between the ages of 18 and 26 with German or Israeli citizenship or permanent residence in one of the two countries. It is not affiliated with any particular religious denomination. In Germany, Israeli volunteers work in social institutions and in formal and informal educational projects. In Israel, German volunteers work in institutions for people with disabilities, rehabilitation centers, and in senior care.



The Educational Exchange Service of the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs promotes European and international exchange in the field of education. It operates on behalf of the federal states and is based in Bonn. The Educational Exchange Service promotes school partnerships with Israel: schools can apply for subsidies to cover the flight and program costs of Israeli student groups and accompanying teachers for their stay at the German partner school. Preparatory visits are also funded.



**KULTUSMINISTER
KONFERENZ**
*Pädagogischer
Austauschdienst*



Caravan Orchestra & Choir **Sounds of Diversity from Haifa and Weimar**

The Caravan Orchestra & Choir was founded in the summer of 2017 as an exchange project between Yiddish Summer Weimar and the Department of Music at the University of Haifa, in cooperation with the University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar.

Each year, the Orchestra invites young artists from Israel and Germany to participate in a 2–3 week residency in Haifa and Weimar. The program includes an intensive rehearsal period, concerts in both countries, and a variety of social activities, workshops, and excursions.

Guided by internationally acclaimed musicians, the Caravan Orchestra & Choir celebrates a centuries-old musical dialogue among Yiddish, Arabic, Sephardic, Ottoman, and Greco-Turkish traditions. Together, the young musicians discover that these sounds form not just history—but a living, shared heritage that inspires new creativity and connection.

Winners of the 2018 Shimon Peres Prize, the Caravan Orchestra & Choir is always a new adventure—creating exuberant, passionate music that is fresh, full of improvisation, and pure joy. Come and discover what they will bring to the stage on Monday night!



WE ARE CONNECTED.
German-Israeli **Youth** Exchange
in Past, Present and Future