

Interdisciplinary Bilateral Expert Group on the Topic “Do Encounters Have an Effect Against Prejudices?”

30-31 May 2022
Berlin



Questioning stereotypes and prejudice about the “Other” stays at the very core of every youth exchange program. Personal encounters create the space in which young people not only build new relationships but also experience a positive view on diversity and are able to develop empathy as well as understanding about differing life realities.

ConAct – German-Israeli Youth Exchange and the **Israel Youth Exchange Authority** wish to further examine the potential of youth encounters and invite you cordially to become a member of an Interdisciplinary Bilateral Group of Experts from Germany and Israel which will exchange insights and experience on the topic “Do Encounters Have an Effect Against Prejudice?”.

- To what extent can encounters between young people counteract stereotypes and prejudice?
- What are the challenges but also the endless possibilities which encounter programs create in dealing with different world views and life realities?
- What is expected in terms of educational preparation and how can youth encounters reach their potential on an individual level as well as a tool for social change?

The Interdisciplinary Bilateral Expert Group:

- Consists of 18 professionals from **Germany and Israel**
- Each expert brings expertise from different fields of work such as education, scientific research and international youth work, **related also to the effects of encounters** as a tool against prejudice and discrimination.
- The aim of the meeting is to **critically think about the effects of encounter projects and discuss its limitations but also possibilities**. Together we wish to examine the factors from which an encounter project can benefit the most, in order to create positive attitudes against prejudice and discrimination.
- The exchange between the professionals from both countries will create a valuable pool of insights which will be utilized in the **preparation of a German-Israeli conference** on the topic “Do Encounters Have an Effect Against Prejudice?” The conference will take place in November 2022 in Berlin.

The model project “Acting against Anti-Semitism in Youth Work and Education” was funded in 2020-2021 by the Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life in Germany and the Fight against Antisemitism. The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth supports the continuation of the project by providing supplementary funding for further project modules. The project is realized by ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange in cooperation with the Israel Youth Exchange Authority.



Gefördert vom



Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren, Frauen
und Jugend

SUNDAY, 29 MAY 2022

12:00 pm Lunch and free time in Berlin

MONDAY, 30 MAY 2022

11:30 am Participants from Israel:
Transfer by bus to Hotel Wyndham Garden

01:00 pm Arrival of the participants from Germany, check-in, lunch

02:00 pm **Welcome, Opening and Getting-to-Know**

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

Roey Tshuva, CYMI – Council of Youth Movements in Israel

04:00 pm Coffee & break

04:30 pm **Defining the Field of Discourse:
“Encounters in and Between Multicultural Societies –
Reducing Resentments and Processes of Othering?”**
Opening Keynote and Discussion

06:00 pm Coffee & break

06:30 pm **Racism and anti-Semitism – Definitions and Impulses for Action**
Panel Discussion

Prof. Barbara Schäubel, Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences,
Berlin

Carole Nuriel, ADL Israel – Anti-Defamation League

Filiz Keküllüoğlu, City Councilwoman, Berlin Lichtenberg

08:00 pm Dinner at the restaurant of the hotel

TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2022

09:00 am Breakfast at the hotel

**Reflecting on Educational Approaches:
Encounter as a Frame to Question Prejudices?
Challenges & Conditions for Success**
Input and Exchange

Tom Vitzel, NOAL – The General Federation of Working and Studying
Youth Movement

Bettina Pinzl, Fabrik Osloer Straße e.V., Berlin

TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2022

10:00 am Coffee & break

10:30 am **Reflecting on Exchange Experience –
Outcomes of Encounter Projects**
Project Presentation and World Café

Roey Tshuva, CYMI – Council of Youth Movements in Israel
Gilad Levi, Former Israeli Scouts Group Leader

Wiebke Rasumny, Encounter Project “Meet A Jew”
Cyra Sommer, ConAct – “Acting Against Anti-Semitism”

Yousef Kadah, Ajyal Youth Movement
Orit Reingewertz, Hashomer Hatzair Israel

Mehmet Can, Teacher and Coordinator of Exchange Programs
Aysel Bozkurt, Teacher and Participant of “Your Story Moves”

12:30 pm Lunch & break

02:00 pm **Facing History From Differing Perspectives –
Reducing Prejudice Through Mutual Understanding**
Panel Discussion and Questions

Dennis Forster, Flossenbürg Concentration Camp Memorial
Noam Leibman, Givat Haviva – Moreshet Holocaust & Research Center
Guy Band, Reconciliation Service for Peace

03:30 pm Coffee & break

04:00 pm **Wrapping-Up & Looking Ahead:
Essential Findings to Prepare Symposium in Autumn 2022**
Brainstorming and Working Groups

06:00 pm Dinner

WEDNESDAY, 1 JUNE 2022

Free time in Berlin



INFORMATION

Team

Christine Mähler, ConAct: christine-maehler@conact-org.de
Roey Tshuva, Council of Youth Movements Israel: roey@tni.org.il

Sabine Troitzsch, ConAct: sabine.troitzsch@conact-org.de
Simon Rumlich, ConAct: simon.rumlich@conact-org.de



ConAct – Coordination Center for German-Israeli Youth Exchange is an institution of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth with the support of the federal states of Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania – for the promotion, monitoring and further development of German-Israeli youth contacts. ConAct works nationwide and is sponsored locally by the Protestant Academy of Saxony-Anhalt.



The Israel Youth Exchange Authority (IYEA) is ConAct's partner in Israel. The Public Authority works with the support of the Israeli Ministry of Education and the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in this capacity is responsible for the international youth relations that Israel maintains with numerous countries.



The Council of Youth Movements in Israel is the umbrella organization of the youth movements in Israel. It serves as a roundtable and a meeting place for the heads of the youth movements, hailing from all across the political spectrum, to address current educational issues and the involvement of youth in social processes and public activity, as well as present-day problems facing Israeli society. CYMI maintains relations with corresponding youth movement councils and conducts youth delegation exchanges between them.