



## ***Facing Changes in the Presence of the Past – Commemorating the Shoah in German-Israeli Youth Exchange***

**German-Israeli Conference, March, 13-15, 2014, Nürnberg**

**Encounters of German and Israeli youngsters** focus on many aspects of the present life in both countries - on shared cultural experiences, common interests in social media and connecting challenges of a personal orientation in a globalized world.

**Yet the presence of the past** - the persecution and murder of millions of Jews and other minorities by Germans all over Europe 70 years ago– is vibrant and often influencing perspectives on one another. Youngsters of the so called third and fourth generation after the historical events consider themselves both connected and free from the past. The projection of subscribed roles of belonging to the group of ‘descendants’ of ‘perpatrators’ or ‘victims of National Socialism’ become visible when facing the history as one topic of German-Israeli exchange projects. Facing this history and finding ways of commemorating together poses one of the great educational challenges of German-Israeli youth encounters and at the same time brings about close personal and intergroup relations.

**Groups of German-Israeli Youth encounters keep changing during the last years:** Youngsters in Germany hold a great variety of differing cultural, religious, ethnic and national identities, given migration processes in Europe during the last decades. Also in Israel the young generation is aware of the variety of Jewish identities, having their family roots in all parts of the world, and of youngsters with Arab or Druse background as part of the Israeli society.

**The enlarged variety of possibly participating youth from both countries poses new challenges for a fruitful educational process throughout German-Israeli encounters:**

How can we open up the specific context of German-Israeli relations, in which explicitly relating to the German-Jewish-Israeli past and presence is an integral part, for youngsters from differing cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds? How can we keep on establishing a shared and meaningful commemoration of the Shoah, offering young people of today to connect to this history in individual ways? How can we encourage youngsters to draw conclusions from the past, create awareness and become active against discrimination and racism, for tolerance and equal human rights – beyond national borders?

These and other questions shall be discussed at the German-Israeli Conference ‘Facing Changes’. Ideas for answers to these questions are also to be found **in the enhanced and renewed Handbook ‘Commemorating Together – Bildung Bridges’**, which shall be presented at the conference. The conference is addressed at educators and group leaders of German-Israeli Youth Exchange projects from Israel and Germany. The idea is to deepen the exchange of theory and practical experience regarding the educational challenges of commemorating the Shoah together and empowering young people for a respectful and democratic life today.

### Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Arrival of the Israeli participants to Germany - Transfer to Nürnberg  
Welcome at Munich Airport by Juliane Niklas, Bavarian Youth Council

2.30 pm Meeting in the Hotel-Looby  
Nuremberg city tour with focus on "Nuremberg - City of Human Rights"

### Thursday, March 13, 2014

Morning Free time for Israeli participants – options for Museums in Nürnberg

1.30 pm Arrival of the German participants to the seminar-venue

2.00 pm Opening of the conference  
Christine Mähler, ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange  
Michael Schwarz, Bavarian Youth Council

2.30 pm ***Changing perspectives on the past –  
Younger generations in Israel and Germany relating to the Shoah***

Prof. Dr. Adi Wolfson, Shamoan College, Beer-Sheva  
Gottfried Kössler, Fritz-Bauer-Institut, Frankfurt

Lecture & discussion – plenum session

4.30 pm coffee & break

5.00 pm ***Changing perspectives on the past among the younger generations –  
Connecting scientific research and practical experience***

Panel discussion

- Iddo Felsenthal, Jerusalem
- Prof. Adi Wolfson, Shamoan College, Beer-Sheva
- Gottfried Kössler, Fritz-Bauer Institute
- Asaf Erlich, Volunteer of Kom-Mit-Nadev, Hod Hasharon/Wittenberg

Moderation: Bernhard Krane, Action Reconciliation Service for Peace

7.00 pm Dinner

8.30 pm ***Expressing the presence of the past -  
The role of literature and art for commemorating the Shoah  
and for Building Bridges into the presence***

Prof. Adi Wolfson, Shamoon College, Beer-Sheva

### **Friday, March 14, 2014**

9.00 am ***Considering various personal and national identities -  
Commemorating the Shoah in multicultural societies in Israel***

Prof. Dr. Eyal Naveh, Tel Aviv University

10.30 am coffee & break

11.00 am ***Considering various personal and national identities -  
Commemorating the Shoah in multicultural societies in Germany***

Dr. Elke Gryglewski,  
Memorial and Education Center House of the Wannsee-Conference

1.00 pm Lunch & Break

3.00 pm ***Commemorating Together - Building Bridges***  
**Presentation of the enhanced booklet on shared commemoration ceremonies  
in Israeli-German Youth Exchange**

Greeting words  
Matthias Fack, Bavarian Youth Council  
Einav Bar, Municipality of Jerusalem

Introduction  
Dr. Nili Keren, Senior Advisor to the project, Kibbuzim College of Education, Israel  
Christine Mähler, ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange  
Monika Sailer, Bavarian Youth Council

4.00 pm coffee & break

4.30 pm **Methodological approaches**

**Workshops on educational methods for shared historical learning and commemorating in German-Israeli exchange projects - offered in the booklet 'Commemorating Together - Building Bridges'**

- 1 **Timeline – dealing with the Shoah in Germany and Israel after 1945**  
Dr. Elke Gryglewski, Memorial and Education Center House of the Wannsee-Conference  
Guy Band, Educator in historical-political learning and exchange projects
- 2 **Variety of commemoration cultures**  
Dr. Meron Mendel, Begegnungsstätte Anne Frank, Frankfurt
- 3 **Stream of life – stream of remembrance**  
Tanja Berg, Educator in historical-political learning & exchange projects
- 4 **How could it happen?**  
**Training the exclusion in National Socialism.**  
**Working with caricatures.**  
Daniel Gaede, Buchenwald Memorial, Weimar
- 5 **Commemorating Together –**  
**Youngsters from different cultural backgrounds**  
Oren Lalo, Teacher & exchange moderator, Jerusalem
- 6 **Focusing on humanistic and universal values**  
**in the preparation of shared commemoration processes**  
Toni Nasser, HaNoar HaOved WeHalomed  
Nadja Khalaf, Kreisjugendwerk Niederrhein

6.30 pm **Sharing impressions & insights from the workshops**  
Plenum session

7.30 pm Kabbalat Shabat - Dinner

## **Saturday, March 15, 2014**

9.00 am Plenum opening of the day

### ***Exchanging Experience***

***How to convey the significance of the past for today?***

**Workshops on the practice of historical political education –  
For democratic values, tolerance and personal commitment**

11.00 am Coffee & break

11.30 am **Sharing impressions & insights from the workshops**  
- in the presence of the closing observer and lecturer

### ***Learning - Commemorating – Acting?***

**Connecting historical political learning  
and commitment for democracy and human rights  
as part of German-Israeli encounters**

Daniel Gaede, Buchenwald Memorial

Dr. Nili Keren, Kibbuzim College of Education, Israel

1.00 pm Plenum session - Closing session

1.30 pm Lunch - end of the conference

3.00 pm Meeting in the Lobby for optional Program:  
Visit to the area of the Nazi Party Rally Grounds in Nürnberg – two options:  
1. Guided Tour around the Nazi Party Rally Grounds (outside)  
2. Guided Tour at the Documentation Centre of the Nazi Party Rally Grounds

The bus will go back to the Hotel at 6.00 pm.

Overnight for Israeli participants.

## **Sunday, March 16, 2014**

Return to Israel for Israeli participants

### Conference Concept & Moderation

ConAct & Municipality of Jerusalem & Bavarian Youth Council

#### Leading through the conference

Christine Mähler, Juliane Niklas

#### Program Logistics

Hannelore Bergholz, ConAct

#### Simultaneous Translation

Antje Eiger, Shimrit Härtl

#### Seminar Venue & Accommodation

Ringhotel LOEW'S MERKUR

Pillenreuther Straße 1

90459 Nürnberg

Tel. 0911-994330

[www.loews-hotel-merkur.de](http://www.loews-hotel-merkur.de)

### Target Group

The conference is addressed at educators and group leaders of German-Israeli Exchange projects from Israel and Germany.

**Participants from Israel:** receive a flight support of 280,- €.

The participation in the seminar includes full board and the program, no additional fee. Participants book the flight themselves and receive the reimbursement at the conference.

**Participants from Germany:** receive reimburse of travel costs, railway, 2<sup>nd</sup> class.

The participation in the seminar includes full board and the program, participation fee: 100,- €

To be payed in cash at the conference.

### Inviting Organizations

ConAct – Coordination Center German-Israeli Youth Exchange  
Municipality of Jerusalem  
Bavarian Youth Council  
Israel Youth Exchange Authority

### Contact

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