



AJC 2009 Annual Meeting

Global Jewish Advocacy

Welcome

Dear Participant,

Welcome to AJC's 2009 Annual Meeting!

We are excited to present a completely revamped and improved format this year. For Annual Meeting veterans, we hope you enjoy the new look and feel. And, for our many newcomers, we encourage your full engagement in the centerpiece of AJC's yearly programming.

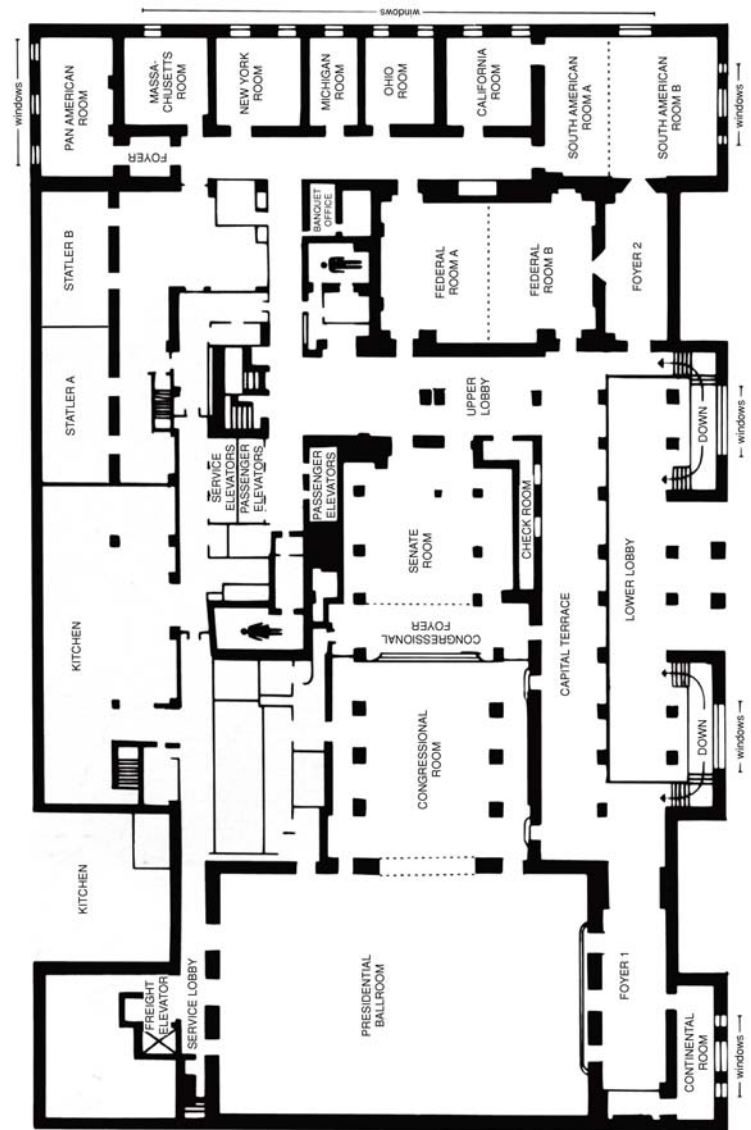
Over the next 48 hours, you will have the chance to connect with Jewish activists from six continents, to learn how to be a better advocate, and to become more knowledgeable and more inspired to make an impact.

In these perilous times, the challenges we face have only grown more urgent. It's all the more important that we come together to draw strength and inspiration from each other—and to take action.

Thank you for being here.



David Harris



Tuesday, May 5 – Strategic Planning

10:00–5:00 PM **Board of Governors: Strategic Planning Discussion**

Federal AB

Wednesday, May 6 – Annual Meeting

9:00–12:00 PM **Board of Governors: Strategic Planning Discussion**

Federal AB

12:00–2:00 PM **Planned Giving Corner**

Foyer 1

Robin Ann Phillips, National Director of Planned Giving, AJC

2:00–3:30 PM **Board of Governors/National Council Meeting**

Federal AB

3:30–5:30 PM **National Distinguished Leadership Award Reception in Honor of Shrub Kempner, Jr.**

Congressional

4:45–5:45 PM **Welcome Reception**

Capital Terrace

5:45–8:00 PM **Opening Plenary: Global Jewish Challenges Today**

Presidential

Keynote

Bernard-Henri Lévy, French author and philosopher

Respondents

Einat Wilf, Israeli author and activist; fellow, Jewish People Policy Planning Institute

Dov Zakheim, Chair, International Relations Commission, AJC

Moderator: **Mimi Alperin**, Chair, Board of Governors, AJC

Public Service Award

Presentation: **David Harris**, Executive Director, AJC

Response: **Stuart A. Levey**, U.S. Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence

8:30–10:00 PM **Private Dinners with Distinguished Guests and AJC Staff Experts**

Yashar Aliyev, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to U.S.

Deidre Berger, Director of AJC's Lawrence and Lee Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, Berlin

Lisa Billig, AJC representative, Rome and the Vatican

Valerie Hoffenberg, Director, AJC France

Mark Kirk, Member of Congress

Eran Lerman, Director, AJC Israel/Middle East Office

Stuart A. Levey, U.S. Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence

Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, Ambassador of Croatia to U.S.

John Mann, Member of United Kingdom Parliament;

Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism

Aziz Mekouar, Ambassador of Morocco to U.S.

Hillel Neuer, Executive Director, UN Watch, AJC

Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Ambassador of Brazil to U.S.

Sameh Shoukry, Ambassador of Egypt to U.S.

Arun K. Singh, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India to U.S.

Hector Timerman, Ambassador of Argentina to U.S.

Robert Wexler, Member of Congress

Thursday, May 7

7:30-8:15 AM **Optional Daily *Minyanim* and Study**

Traditional, **New York**

Egalitarian, **Ohio**

How to Read a Jewish Text, **California**

9:00-10:15 AM **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Federal A

IDENTITY

Are We Still One People?

Speakers

Rabbi Saul Berman, Director, Continuing Rabbinic Education, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, President, Union for Reform Judaism

Chancellor Ismar Schorsch, Chancellor, Jewish Theological Seminary, 1986-2006

Moderator **Erica Brown**, Director, Adult Education, Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning

Closing Remarks **Steven Bayme**, Director, Contemporary Jewish Life, AJC

Congressional

SECURITY

Global Threats: Lessons for Diplomacy

Speakers

Elliott Abrams, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations; Deputy National Security Advisor, 2005-08

George Friedman, CEO of STRATFOR, author

Moisés Naim, Editor-in-chief, *Foreign Policy*

Moderator **Martine Rubenstein**, Member, Board of Governors, AJC

Closing Remarks **Jason Isaacson**, Director, Office of Government and International Affairs, AJC

Federal B

PLURALISM

Cooperation or Conflict? Intergroup Relations in Today's America

Speakers

Janet Murguía, President and CEO, National Council of La Raza

Rabbi David Saperstein, Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

Hilary O. Shelton, Director, NAACP's Washington Bureau

Moderator **Jerry Biederman**, Chair, Domestic Policy, AJC

Closing Remarks **Ann Schaffer**, Director, Belfer Center for American Pluralism, AJC

10:30-11:45 AM **SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS**

Senate

IDENTITY

How Did We Get Here? Israeli History for Israel Advocates

Eran Lerman, Director, AJC Israel/Middle East Office

Ohio

Kol Yisrael: Global Jewry and Mutual Responsibility

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director, International Jewish Affairs, AJC

Tomas Kraus, Executive Director, Federation of Jewish Communities of the Czech Republic

Statler B

Why Be Jewish?

Mervyn Danker, Director, AJC San Francisco

Federal A

SECURITY

Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism: Response Strategies

Ben Cohen, Associate Director, Communications, AJC

California

Advocacy the AJC Way: The Leadership Voice

Richard Foltin, Director of National and Legislative Affairs, AJC

Susan Abravanel, Chair, Advocacy Task Force, AJC

New York

Conducting an Energy Advocacy Campaign

David Bernstein, Associate Director, Community Services Department, AJC

Donald Yale, Chair, Chapters' Energy Task Force, AJC

Federal B

Jewish Diplomacy and the State of Israel

Amb. Aaron Jacob, Associate Director, International Affairs, AJC

South American B

PLURALISM

Interreligious Dialogue: What You Need to Know about Judaism

Gary Greenebaum, U.S. Director, Interreligious Affairs, AJC

South American A

Seizing New Opportunities in Black-Jewish Relations

Melanie Maron, Director, AJC Washington, DC

Statler A

Creating a Partnership with Indian-Americans

Ann Schaffer, Director, Belfer Center for American Pluralism, AJC

Nissim Reuben, Program Director, Indian-Jewish American Relations, AJC



PROGRAM

Thursday, May 7 - continued

12:00-1:15 PM **BOOK CLUB LUNCHES with AJC staff experts**

Much Too Promised Land by Aaron David Miller—**Carmiel Arbit**, Special Projects Manager, Arabian Peninsula, AJC

A Time to Every Purpose by Jonathan Sarna—**Rabbi Noam Marans**, Associate Director, Contemporary Jewish Life, AJC

Under a Mushroom Cloud: Europe, Iran and the Bomb by Emanuele Ottolenghi—**Doug Lieb**, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director, AJC

Godly Republic by John Dilulio—**Richard Foltin**, Director of National and Legislative Affairs, AJC

Pigeon and a Boy by Meir Shalev—**Jeremy Dauber**, Professor of Yiddish Literature, Columbia University

The Path to Paradise: The Inner World of the Suicide Bombers and their Dispatchers by Anat Berko—**Anat Berko**, Visiting Professor, George Washington University

The Holocaust is Over: We Must Rise from Its Ashes by Avraham Burg—**Steven Bayme**, Director, Contemporary Jewish Life, AJC

12:00-1:30 PM **Planned Giving Corner**

Foyer 1

Robin Ann Phillips, National Director of Planned Giving, AJC

1:30-2:45 PM **SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS**

Stabler A

IDENTITY

Building Young Leadership
Rebecca Neuwirth, Director, ACCESS: AJC's New Generation Program

South American B

How Did We Get Here? Israeli History for Israel Advocates

Steven Bayme, Director, Contemporary Jewish Life, AJC

Federal A

SECURITY

Battlefront 2.0: Israel Advocacy on the Web

Ben Cohen, Associate Director of Communications, AJC

California

Choosing Partners for Dialogue

Yehudit Barsky, Director, Division on Middle East and International Terrorism, AJC

Senate

Effective Diplomatic Outreach: Talking About Iran

Jason Isaacson, Director, Office of Government and International Affairs, AJC

New York

Conducting an Energy Advocacy Campaign

David Bernstein, Associate Director, Community Services Department, AJC
Donald Yale, Chair, Chapters' Energy Task Force, AJC

Stabler B

PLURALISM

Effective Immigration Advocacy

Kara Stein, Director, Legal Advocacy; Associate Director, Community Services, AJC

Ohio

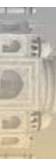
Building a Latino-Jewish Coalition in Your Area

Dina Siegel Vann, Director, Latino and Latin American Institute, AJC
Larry Gonzalez, Principal, The Raben Group

Federal B

Interreligious Dialogue: Dos and Don'ts

Gary Greenebaum, U.S. Director, Interreligious Affairs, AJC
Emily Soloff, Director, AJC Chicago



Thursday, May 7 - continued

3:00-4:00 PM **BREAKOUT SESSIONS with AJC International Partners (Optional)**

Australia, **New York Room**
Canada, **Michigan Room**
Chile and Mexico, **Ohio Room**

Czech Republic and Russia, **Statler B**
South Africa, **Statler A**
Turkey, **South American B**

United Kingdom, **Federal B**
Venezuela, **Federal A**

3:00-4:00 PM **Planned Giving Corner**

Foyer 1

Robin Ann Phillips, National Director of Planned Giving, AJC

3:00-5:00 PM **BREAK**

5:00-6:00 PM **Gala Reception**

Congressional/Senate

6:00-8:00 PM **Gala Program**

Presidential

Franco Frattini, Foreign Minister of Italy
Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General of the United States

Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism of Canada

Jan Karski Award

Presentation: **Stanley Bergman**, Chair, AJC National Council

Recipient: **John Mann**, Member of United Kingdom Parliament; Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism

8:30-11:30 PM **ACCESS Reception/Leonard Greenberg Forum for Domestic Policy**

Congressional

Norm Eisen, White House Ethics Advisor

Friday, May 8

7:30-8:15 AM **Optional Daily *Minyanim* and Study**

Traditional, **New York**

Egalitarian, **Ohio**

How to Read a Jewish Text, **California**

8:30-9:45 AM **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Federal B

IDENTITY

Jewish Identity: A New Generation

Speakers

Ed Loh, Director of Research, Ortelius Capital Partners

Halie Soifer, Foreign policy advisor to Senator Ted Kaufman

Rabbi Ethan Tucker, Co-founder, Mechon Hadar, rabbi and teacher

Moderator

Ari Wallach, Cofounder, Jewish Council for Education and Research

Closing Remarks

Rebecca Neuwirth, Director, ACCESS: AJC's New Generation Program

Congressional

SECURITY

Has Global Anti-Semitism Gone Mainstream?

Speakers

Valerie Hoffenberg, Director, AJC France

Deidre Berger, Director of AJC's Lawrence and Lee Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, Berlin

Hillel Neuer, Executive Director, UN Watch, AJC

Dina Siegel Vann, Director, Latino and Latin American Institute, AJC

Moderator and Closing Remarks

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director, International Jewish Affairs, AJC

Federal A

PLURALISM

Religion in America: New Trends and Old Controversies

Speakers

Dr. Jean Pierre Ruiz, Scholar of Biblical studies and Hispanic/Latino theology, St. John's University; Editor-in-chief, *Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology*

Fr. James Massa, Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs

Elena G. Procario-Foley, Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies, Iona College

Moderator **David Rousso**, Chair, Interreligious Affairs Commission, AJC

Closing Remarks

Gary Greenebaum, U.S. Director, Interreligious Affairs, AJC

Mass Media Award

Presentation: **Linda Mirels**, Member, Board of Governors, AJC

Recipient: **Pilar Rahola**, Spanish journalist, Member of Spanish Parliament, 1993-2000

Remarks: **Richard Sideman**, President, AJC

A Conversation with **David Harris**, Executive Director, AJC

Closing: **Stanley Bergman**, Chair, AJC National Council



Speakers

Elliott Abrams served as President Ronald Reagan's assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs and later assistant secretary for inter-American affairs. During President George W. Bush's first term, he was special assistant to the president and senior director of the National Security Council for Near East and North African affairs. In Bush's second term, he was deputy national security advisor for global democracy strategy, in charge of promoting the president's strategy of advancing democracy abroad. He is the author of *Democracy How Direct?: Views from the Founding Era and the Polling Era* and *Faith or Fear: How Jews Can Survive in a Christian America*.

Deidre Berger is director of AJC's Berlin Office/Lawrence and Lee Ramer Center for German-Jewish Relations. Prior to AJC, she was a journalist for more than twenty years, mostly as a correspondent and producer for National Public Radio. She also reported for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and *Maariv*. Berger is an advisory board member of Bridge of Understanding, a Munich-based organization that promotes American-Jewish-German understanding, and of Action Reconciliation/Service for Peace, a group that sends German youth volunteers to countries that suffered under Nazi occupation.

Rabbi Saul Berman, a leading Modern Orthodox teacher and thinker, is director of Continuing Rabbinic Education at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. He was formerly the rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel in Berkeley, California, and of the Young Israel of Brookline, Massachusetts, and has been a professor at Stern College of Yeshiva University for many years. He was the founder and director of Edah, an organization for the promotion of Modern Orthodoxy.



Speakers



Franco Frattini is the foreign minister of Italy. Previously he served as a vice president of the European Commission and commissioner for justice, freedom and security. He was elected to the Chamber of Deputies, representing the Popolo della Libertà (People of Freedom Coalition), in the general election of April 2008, and became minister of foreign affairs in May. He first came to the Chamber of Deputies on the Forza Italia (Go Italy) ticket in April 1996, and held a number of parliamentary posts, including president of the Parliamentary Committee for Intelligence and Security Services. A lawyer by training, he is a lecturer in the Civil Law Department of the law faculty of La Sapienza University, and an editor of legal journals.

George Friedman is the founder and CEO of STRATFOR, a private global intelligence firm. He previously spent almost twenty years in academia, teaching political science at Dickenson College and briefing senior officers in the armed services. He was also an early designer of computerized war games. In 1994, he founded the Center for Geopolitical Studies at Louisiana State University, a think tank that integrated economic, political, and military modeling and forecasting. Friedman's latest book, *The Next 100 Years: A Forecast for the 21st Century* is a *New York Times* best seller.

David Harris has been AJC executive director since 1990. He has traveled worldwide to monitor the condition of Jewish communities, combat anti-Semitism, advance Israel's diplomatic standing, and promote international human rights and intergroup understanding. He has been honored by the governments of Bulgaria, France, Germany, Latvia, Poland, and Ukraine. A prolific writer, his op-ed articles appear regularly in major newspapers. He is the author of *The Jewish World, Entering a New Culture, In the Trenches, Volumes 1-5*, and coauthor of *The Jokes of Oppression*. Since 2001, he has had a regular weekly commentary on the CBS Radio Network.

Valerie Hoffenberg is the director of AJC France. Trained as a lawyer with a Master's degree in political science and communication, Hoffenberg has long been involved in the French Jewish community. She was a member of the political commission of CRIF, the French Jewish umbrella organization, a member of the women's French UJA, and vice president of the French-Israeli association for the support of the victims of terror. She was honored by French President Nicolas Sarkozy with the *Légion d'honneur*, France's highest decoration.

Eric H. Holder, Jr. is the 82nd attorney general of the United States, serving under President Barack Obama. In 1997, Holder was named by President Clinton to be the deputy attorney general, the first African-American named to that post. Prior to that he served as U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia. In 1988, Holder was nominated by President Reagan to become an associate judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Before becoming attorney general, he was a litigation partner at Covington & Burling LLP in Washington.

Jason Kenney is the minister of citizenship, immigration, and multiculturalism of Canada. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1997 and has been re-elected three times. He was appointed parliamentary secretary to the prime minister in 2006, and secretary of state for multiculturalism and Canadian identity in 2007. In Parliament he formerly served as chair of the House of Commons Subcommittee on International Human Rights. Prior to seeking election, Kenney served as president and chief executive officer of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.



Speakers



Stuart A. Levey is under secretary of the U.S. Treasury for terrorism and financial intelligence. He has played a central role in efforts to combat North Korea's and Iran's illicit conduct in the international financial system. Prior to his appointment during the Bush Administration, Levey served as the principal associate deputy attorney general in the U.S. Department of Justice, where he coordinated the Justice Department's varied counterterrorism activities, including investigations, intelligence collection, and prosecutions.

Bernard-Henri Lévy is a French journalist and philosopher. He was a founder, in 1976, of the *Nouveaux Philosophes* (New Philosophers) school, which critiqued the French left's indulgence of the Soviet Union and Marxist dogma. He is the author of thirty books and is an activist and filmmaker. His books include *Left in Dark Times: A Stand against the New Barbarism*, *L'Ideologie française (The French Ideology)*, *Barbarism with a Human Face*, *Reflections on War*, *Century of Sartre*, *Evil and the End of History*, and *Who Killed Daniel Pearl?* In 2005 he wrote a series of essays for the *Atlantic Monthly* entitled "In the Footsteps of Tocqueville," which recorded his observations on his travels around America.

Ed Loh is director of research at Ortelius Capital Partners. He was previously a consultant at Alliance Bernstein and a senior analyst at Centurion Investment Group. Educated at Yale, he is a member of ACCESS, AJC's new generation program.

John Mann is a member of the United Kingdom Parliament for the Labour Party, representing Bassetlaw since 2001. He chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism, which commissioned the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism in 2005. Under MP Mann's leadership, the London Conference on Combating Antisemitism was cosponsored

by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office in February 2009. It brought together 125 parliamentarians from around the world and 75 nongovernmental experts, gathered for intensive discussions on the growing global threat of anti-Semitism.

Father James Massa, a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, is the executive director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. This position makes him the chief advisor on ecumenical and interreligious issues for the Catholic bishops of the United States. He served as a parish priest in Forest Hills, New York, and a campus minister at Queens College, CUNY. After pursuing graduate studies at Yale Divinity School and Fordham University, he wrote a doctoral dissertation at Fordham under the eminent Jesuit theologian Avery Dulles. Father Massa has held teaching positions at Newman University (Wichita, KS), Blessed John XXIII National Seminary (Weston, MA), and the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception (Huntington, NY). He has published widely on theological topics.

Janet Murguía is president and CEO of the National Council of La Raza, the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S. She previously served as executive vice chancellor for university relations at the University of Kansas. She began her Washington career as a legislative counsel to former Kansas Congressman Jim Slattery, and then worked in the White House from 1994 to 2000, ultimately serving as deputy assistant to President Bill Clinton. She also served as deputy director of legislative affairs, acting as a senior White House liaison to Congress. She is a board member of Independent Sector, a coalition of leading nonprofits, and is on the Board of the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility and the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda.



Speakers



Moisés Naim is the editor-in-chief of *Foreign Policy* magazine. A Venezuelan economist, he has written extensively on international trade, multilateral organizations, U.S. foreign policy, and globalization's consequences. He is the author or editor of eight books, including *Illicit: How Smugglers, Traffickers, and Copycats Are Hijacking the Global Economy*. Earlier Naim served as Venezuela's minister of trade and industry and was involved in the launching of major economic reforms in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Previously he served as an executive director at the World Bank. He is a member of the World Economic Forum's International Media Council.

Hillel Neuer is executive director of UN Watch, AJC's institute in Geneva. He has written on law, politics, and international affairs for publications such as the *International Herald Tribune*, *Juriste International*, and *Commentary*. Neuer appears regularly before the UN Human Rights Council, intervening for a range of causes. In February 2008 he was elected vice-president of the Geneva-based Special Committee of NGOs on Human Rights, part of the worldwide Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO). Neuer has debated UN human rights issues on CNN, Fox News, and the BBC. Prior to joining UN Watch, Neuer practiced commercial and civil rights litigation at the international law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and served as a law clerk to the Supreme Court of Israel.

Elena Procaro-Foley is the Driscoll Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY, and coeditor and contributor to *Frontiers in Catholic Feminist Theology: Shoulder to Shoulder* (forthcoming from Fortress Press, October 2009). She is also editor of *Children of the Living God: Explorations in Jewish-Catholic Dialogue* (forthcoming from

Paulist Press). Having earned her MA and Ph.D. degrees in theology from the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, she has worked to revision theology through the lens of Jewish-Christian reconciliation. Procaro-Foley is the chair of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations, the secretary of the College Theology Society, and serves on the boards of the Stimulus Foundation of Paulist Press and the Manhattan College Holocaust Resource Center.

Pilar Rahola is a Spanish journalist who has been outspoken in her criticism of the anti-Israel slant of the European media. She also has served as a member of Spain's Parliament. She was the only member of Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya Party in the Spanish Congress of Deputies for the fifth and sixth legislatures, and she also served as vice-mayor of Barcelona. From 1978-90, she was director of the Catalan publishing house *Pòrtic*. She has said, "I don't see myself as a defender of Israel, but as a defender of the truth." She writes a regular column for the Barcelona newspaper *La Vanguardia*.

Rev. Jean Pierre Ruiz teaches biblical studies and Hispanic/Latino theology at St. John's University in New York. He is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology* and associate editor of the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*. Past president of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States (ACHTUS), he currently serves as a member of its Board of Directors, and on the Committee on Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession of the Society of Biblical Literature. Active in interreligious dialogue, Father Ruiz participates in the Roman Catholic-Southern Baptist Conversation, sponsored by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops/U.S. Catholic Conference and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Speakers



Rabbi David Saperstein is director and chief legal counsel of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Described by the *Washington Post* as the “quintessential religious lobbyist on Capitol Hill,” he has, during his thirty-year tenure as director of the center, headed several national religious coalitions. He currently cochairs the Coalition to Preserve Religious Liberty, comprised of over fifty national religious denominations and educational organizations, and serves on the boards of numerous national organizations, including the NAACP and People for the American Way. He also teaches seminars in First Amendment church-state law and in Jewish law at Georgetown University Law School. His latest book is *Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices of Our Time*.

Chancellor Ismar Schorsch is chancellor emeritus of the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Rabbi Herman Abramovitz Professor of Jewish History. He served as JTS’s sixth chancellor, retiring in June 2006, after a twenty-year tenure. During his chancellorship, he greatly expanded the seminary into a full-fledged university with a range of graduate programs, increasing the student body from 500 to 700 students and the faculty from 90 to 120. He envisioned the seminary as a vehicle for outreach, introducing new religious alternatives in Israel through the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, reaching out to the Russian Jewish intelligentsia through Project Judaica in Moscow, and expanding the scope of the Ramah camps and Solomon Schechter schools. His most recent book is *Canon Without Closure*, a collection of his Torah commentaries during his tenure as chancellor. He also wrote *The Sacred Cluster: The Core Values of Conservative Judaism*, a monograph outlining the seven basic tenets of the movement.

Hilary O. Shelton is director of the NAACP’s Washington Bureau, the legislative and national public policy division of the national civil rights organization. Shelton previously served as federal liaison/assistant director to the Government Affairs Department of the United Negro College Fund in Washington, D.C. He also served as the Federal Policy Program Director to the United Methodist Church’s social justice advocacy agency, the General Board of Church & Society. Shelton serves on a number of national boards of directors, including the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Center for Democratic Renewal, the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and the Congressional Black Caucus Institute, among many others.

Halie Soifer is the foreign policy advisor to Senator Ted Kaufman. She previously served as a foreign affairs officer at the State Department and as a legislative assistant for Congressman Robert Wexler. She completed a Master’s degree in Middle East Studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in 2008.

Rabbi Ethan Tucker is a cofounder of Mechon Hadar, an institute for prayer, personal growth and Jewish study. He teaches Talmud and *halakha* in the Mechon’s summer studies program, Yeshivat Hadar, and is also a faculty member at the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, where he teaches Talmud and *halakha*. Rabbi Tucker was ordained by the Chief Rabbinate of Israel after years of study at Yeshivat Ma’ale Gilboa and earned a Ph.D. in Talmud and Rabbinics from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He is currently a fellow with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and a cofounder of New York’s Kehilat Hadar. He served on AJC’s Task Force on Jewish Peoplehood.



Speakers



Dina Siegel Vann is director of AJC's Latino and Latin American Affairs Institute. A native of Mexico City, she served as political affairs director for the Mexican Jewish community from 1982-96, acting as spokesperson for Mexican Jewry. She was responsible for organizing the first Latino-Jewish Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., in March 2001. Before her current position, Siegel Vann served as United Nations and Latin American Affairs director for B'nai B'rith International. In 2006 she was honored by the Central American Coalition of Nevada as a "Distinguished Friend of Central America" for her efforts to foster close ties between Latinos and Jews in the U.S.

Einat Wilf is an Israeli writer and activist, and a member of *Kol Dor*, a worldwide network of young Jews dedicated to the rethinking of the Jewish world from a global perspective. She served as a foreign policy advisor to Shimon Peres, as a consultant with McKinsey & Co., and as a managing partner with Koor Corporate Venture Capital. Currently she is a fellow of the Jewish People Policy Planning Institute. Her most recent book is *My Israel, Our Generation*.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie is president of the Union for Reform Judaism, the congregational arm of the Reform Movement in North America. Since assuming the presidency in June 1996, Yoffie has emphasized the reinvigoration of synagogue life through increased Torah study and adult literacy, and the expansion of the Union's camping program. A strong believer in interfaith dialogue, he launched Reform dialogue programs with Christians and Muslims. Before becoming president of URJ, he served as vice president of the same organization, and earlier as executive director of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

Dov S. Zakheim is vice president of Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. He served as under secretary of defense (comptroller) and chief financial officer of the Department of Defense from May 2001 through April 2004. He held various positions at the Department of Defense in the Reagan Administration, including deputy under secretary of defense for planning and resources from 1985-87. He was corporate vice president of System Planning Corporation, a high-tech consulting firm from 1987-2001. He is a member of AJC's Board of Governors and chair of its International Relations Commission.



**American
Jewish
Committee**

Global Jewish
Advocacy

www.ajc.org

AJC seeks a secure Jewish future in a more just world, believing that each pursuit depends upon the other.

AJC has 28 U.S. chapters, 8 offices overseas, and 28 official partnerships with communities around the world.

AJC:

- Builds Bridges
- Advances Security
- Promotes Human Rights
- Supports Israel
- Strengthens Jewish Life