



Profiles

A Look at AJC's Professional Leadership Team



The American Jewish Committee protects the rights and freedoms of Jews the world over; combats bigotry and anti-Semitism and promotes human rights for all; works for the security of Israel and deepened understanding between Americans and Israelis; advocates public policy positions rooted in American democratic values and the perspectives of the Jewish heritage; and enhances the creative vitality of the Jewish people. Founded in 1906, it is the pioneer human-relations agency in the United States.

To learn more about our mission, programs, and publications, and to join and contribute to our efforts, please visit us at www.ajc.org or contact us by phone at 212-751-4000 or by e-mail at contribute@ajc.org.

Profiles

A Look at AJC's Professional Leadership Team

A Message from the Executive Director

When I'm asked what makes AJC distinctive, among my first answers is the quality of its professional staff.

AJC has long prided itself on its ability to recruit and retain top specialists. If you look back over the years, the roster is truly impressive. How have we achieved this? By creating an organizational climate where experts are given the resources and respect they deserve, and the opportunity to engage fully in their particular fields.

Partnered with lay leaders who share their enthusiasm and commitment, they are encouraged to tackle the most challenging and significant issues.

Indeed, AJC's track record in its first century of service provides ample evidence that they have done so in highly effective ways. Many of our professionals, both past and present, can deservedly be described as visionaries.

In international and domestic public policy, interethnic and interfaith relations, Jewish contemporary life, human rights, and the promotion of pluralism and tolerance, among other areas, they have made a meaningful difference. Without question, there is every reason to believe that the impact in the years ahead will be no less.

As you'll see, the people profiled in these pages differ widely in background. They reflect AJC's "big tent," our inclusive and passionate sense of Jewish peoplehood.

Some were born abroad, others in the United States. Some have spent their entire professional lives in the Jewish communal world, others entered after service in different domains—diplomacy, military, academia, media, foundations, etc.

What you may not be able to discern is their wonderfully diverse religious orientations, political outlooks, and personal interests, but trust me, it covers a lot of ground.

The bottom line is that AJC is blessed to have a truly top-notch professional team united by its dedication to advancing this agency's twin goals—strengthening the well-being and security of Jews the world over and advancing human freedom and human dignity for all.

As you flip through the pages of this directory, I think you'll understand why I was so eager for its publication. My only regret is that space limitations prevented us from including our entire staff.

To finish where I began, when asked about our distinctive organizational traits, I also usually say that we value modesty. We prefer to let our work—and its results—speak for themselves.

But I hope I can be forgiven for violating that cardinal principle in boasting that, after more than three decades in the nonprofit world, I have never encountered such a talented and committed group of professionals.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

David A. Harris
Executive Director
American Jewish Committee
January 8, 2007

Profiles

Jews simply do not have the luxury of being indifferent. The Jewish future will be determined by people who care, people with fire in the belly. It is my great privilege to work in partnership at AJC with lay leaders and staff members who are deeply concerned about the future of the Jewish people and, indeed, about the well-being and progress of humanity in general. Working together, we have made a difference, while building AJC into a global organization whose voice and views are heard and respected everywhere.

Shula Bahat

Associate Executive Director,
Director of Leadership and Board Services

bahats@ajc.org



Shula Bahat at an AJC conference in Israel with journalist Yossi Klein Halevi (l.) and Hebrew University professor (emeritus) Shlomo Avineri.

previous posts

Has served twice as AJC Acting Executive Director, in 1990 when she initiated and supervised the agency's reorganization and again from August 1, 2000, to July 31, 2001.

Served as a career officer in the Israeli Defense Forces for five years, leaving with the rank of captain. Her positions included: education, welfare, and women's officer for the Jerusalem Division, operations officer for the Gadna-Youth Corps, as well as executive director of the Sociological and Psychological Research Division of the IDF.

education

B.A., Hebrew University

M.A., the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology, in Urban Planning

Postgraduate studies, University of Pennsylvania

awards and distinctions

Listed among the *Forward* 50, 2001

“Shula Bahat believes in AJC’s mission to the marrow of her bones, but more important, and much more difficult, she knows how to turn that mission, and her belief in it, into steady and extraordinary accomplishment.

And she’s been doing just that for many years.”

E. Robert Goodkind, Partner, Pryor Cashman Sherman & Flynn LLP
and President of the American Jewish Committee

I have been afforded a unique opportunity to work with the reemerging Jewish communities of Central and Eastern Europe and their governments during a remarkable period in history, as they seek to reestablish a place for themselves in their own society and in the Jewish world. Sadly, at the same time we have witnessed a resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere which has required marshaling all of our resources and diplomatic skills to confront and combat.

Rabbi Andrew Baker

Director of International Jewish Affairs

bakera@ajc.org

Rabbi Andy Baker displays the Cross of Officers Award of Merit he was presented by Lithuanian president Valdas Adamkus (r.).



previous posts

Director of European Affairs, American Jewish Committee
Washington Area Director, American Jewish Committee

education

B.A. with honors, Wesleyan University
M.A. and Rabbinic Ordination, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
Doctor of Divinity, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

awards and distinctions

Member, International Committee on the Holocaust in Romania
President, Washington Board of Rabbis
President, Interfaith Conference of Washington
Commissioner, District of Columbia Human Rights Commission
Vice President, Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany
Board Member, International Auschwitz Council
Board of Directors, Czech Government Endowment Fund for Holocaust Victims

Officers Cross of the Order of Merit First Class, Federal Republic of Germany
Cross of Officers of the Republic of Lithuania

books or publications

“Restitution and the Berlin Republic” in *Germany at Fifty-Five* (Manchester University Press)
“Realizing the Belzec Memorial” in *The Architecture of Memory* (Memorial Foundation, Berlin)

“What a pleasure and a joy it was to work with AJC’s Rabbi Andy Baker on the Berlin Conference on anti-Semitism. He was the ‘octane’ that gave our bus the zoom it needed.”

Stephan Minikes, U.S. Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

I left journalism in 1998 to return to this dynamic global organization, where I had previously worked as an analyst on Middle Eastern affairs. At AJC, one feels on a daily basis that we are making a difference for the Jewish people. My role as communications director is to convey to the media, general public, policy-makers, and our own members and supporters the richness of our staff experts, research, and programs that contribute to the effective impact of our ongoing advocacy efforts. Using the latest communications technologies is central to these efforts, and has become more so with the launch of AJC's Lerner Media Center.

Kenneth Bandler

Director of Public Relations and Communications

bandlerk@ajc.org



During an AJC Solidarity Mission to Israel, Ken Bandler offers his condolences to Hanan Sa'id, who lost her father to a Hezbollah rocket attack in Haifa.

previous posts

Managing Editor, Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Adviser, New York City Commission for the United Nations and Consular Corps, Office of the Mayor

Director of Public Information, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (now Jewish Council for Public Affairs)

Research Analyst, Jewish-Arab Relations, Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle Eastern Studies

education

B.A., Lehigh University

M.A., School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, in Middle East Studies

books or publications

Mr. Bandler's articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Jerusalem Post*, among other publications.

“I can say about Ken that he combines an abiding concern for the world Jewish community with a thoroughly sophisticated understanding of media and communications in the twenty-first century.”

Prof. Itamar Rabinovich, President, Tel Aviv University

AJC's Division on Middle East and International Terrorism is the only department in the organized Jewish community dedicated to addressing the threat of global terrorism. AJC stands at the intersection of the political, communal, and law enforcement spheres. This creates unique opportunities for education and advocacy. Among the roles we play: training law enforcement officials on the methods and mindsets of terrorist groups; educating the Jewish community on security issues; educating the political community, through lectures, briefings, and publications, on the threat of radical Islamism; and reaching out to Muslim moderates and reformers in an effort to bolster their positions and work together with them. AJC's stature permits me, as an analyst of the mindset of terrorist organizations, to influence the understanding of organizations in the security and public spheres and to raise consciousness in the Jewish community. Every day here is exciting and meaningful.

Yehudit Barsky

Director, Division on
Middle East and International Terrorism

barskyy@ajc.org

previous posts

Senior Middle East
Research Analyst,
Anti-Defamation League
Consultant to U.S.
Department of Justice
on terrorism cases

education

B.A., New York University
M.A., International
Relations and Near
Eastern Studies,
New York University

awards and distinctions

Senior Management
Team, Secure Community
Network
Associate Scholar, Middle
East Council of the Foreign
Policy Research Institute
Award for Service from the
Dr. Ronald Feld Fund for
Jews from Arab Lands

books or publications

*Al-Qa`ida, Iran, and Hizballah: A Continuing
Symbiosis*
Hizballah: A Mega-Terrorist Organization
*Hamas—The Islamic Resistance Movement of
Palestine*
“Terror by Remote Control,” *Middle East
Quarterly*, June 1996

“AJC’s DMEIT [Division on Middle East and International Terrorism] was in the forefront of the war on terrorism long before terrorism was a front-burner issue, providing detailed information and a clear understanding of the nature of the threat. DMEIT’s publications offer unique insight into terrorist tactics, fundraising, and political activities, both in the American heartland and abroad.”

Peter Probst, counterterrorism consultant and former intelligence officer, CIA and Department of Defense

Efforts at Jewish defense make sense only if there exists a critical mass of Jews interested in leading a creative Jewish life. Over three decades at AJC, I have argued that being Jewish is compelling on its own merits, rather than on account of anti-Semitism. Inside AJC, I have tried to “raise the Jewish temperature,” harnessing our intellectual sophistication to an understanding of our Judaic heritage. Externally, I have tried to challenge Jewish communal leadership to preserve ties of Jewish peoplehood across denominational and geographical boundaries, to articulate the values of Jewish marriage and family, and to fulfill our distinctiveness as a “People of the Book,” namely to become Judaically literate.

Dr. Steven Bayme

National Director
Contemporary Jewish Life Department
Director, Koppelman Institute on American
Jewish-Israeli Relations
baymes@ajc.org



Dr. Steven Bayme (r.) at an AJC event
with Brandeis University president
Dr. Jehuda Reinharz.

faculty positions

Visiting Professor of History,
Jewish Theological Seminary
of America, 2000-07

Visiting Professor,
Yeshiva University

Adjunct Faculty,
Hebrew Union College

education

M.A., Ph.D., Jewish History,
Columbia University

B.A., History, magna cum
laude, Yeshiva University

awards and distinctions

Judge, National Jewish Book
Awards

Faculty, Wexner Heritage
Foundation

Faculty, Nahum Goldman
Fellowship (Memorial
Foundation)

Faculty, Brandeis University
Summer Institute on Israel
Studies

Wexner Foundation Graduate
Fellowship Committee

books

*Jewish Arguments and
Counterarguments:
Essays and Addresses*

*Understanding Jewish
History: Texts and
Commentaries*

**“Dr. Bayme influences the debate on a variety of issues and
has helped steer his organization into position
as the leading address in the national Jewish discussion.”**

The Forward 50, 2001

The American Jewish Committee is an institution that values reasoned thought and nuanced argument, and AJC publications are AJC’s thought made visible—both on paper and on the Web. I relish my role in ensuring that AJC publications are clear, readable, accurate, and aesthetically attractive. The challenge—and the interesting part—is bringing to print the diverse AJC voices, for our varied constituencies, and still keeping everybody on the same broad page. I find it immensely satisfying to deliver into the marketplace of ideas sophisticated discussion on issues vital to the future of the Jewish people.

Roselyn Bell

Director of Publications
bellr@ajc.org

Roselyn Bell at a book shelf displaying some of the many AJC publications she so expertly edits.



previous posts

Associate editor, senior editor, *Hadassah* magazine
Director of publications and communications, Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education
Public relations director, American Friends of Bar-Ilan University

education

B.A., Pomona College, cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa
M.A., University of California at Berkeley, Comparative Literature
M.S., Yeshiva University, Jewish Education

awards and distinctions

Rockower Award in Jewish Journalism
Member of the editorial boards of *Hadassah* magazine and *Jewish Education News*

books or publications

Hadassah Magazine Jewish Parenting Book, editor of record
contributed articles to:
Ruth Frank and William Wollheim, eds., *The Jewish Book of Books*
Susan Berrin, ed., *Celebrating the New Moon*
Alan Tigay, ed., *The Jewish Traveler*
Paula Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore, eds., *Jewish Women in America*
Edited over 100 books, monographs, and curricula

“One of the signal contributions of the American Jewish Committee, over many years now, has been its stream of publications reporting on and analyzing the community. ”

Leonard Fein, *Forward*

The willingness in modern Germany to confront the past and help shape the future, in close coordination with Jewish leaders, presents a unique opportunity for strengthening the Jewish voice in Europe. The German-Jewish dialogue is a critical indicator for the health of the transatlantic relationship. From our office in Berlin, we monitor the pulse of European affairs, bringing a Jewish perspective into debates on issues as far-ranging as terrorism, extremism, anti-Semitism, and immigration. This discussion is driven by a strong core of common values, allowing us to work with an unusually large spectrum of German governmental partners and nongovernmental organizations to promote democracy, diversity, and human rights. It is exciting to lead an office that has set European standards on nongovernmental advocacy, combating anti-Semitism, promoting democracy and human rights, and expanding understanding of U.S. and Israeli interests.

Deidre Berger

Director, AJC Berlin Office/Lawrence and Lee Ramer Center for German-Jewish Relations

bergerd@ajc.org



Deidre Berger with Israeli ambassador to Germany, Shimon Stein.

previous posts

Correspondent for Germany, National Public Radio

Correspondent for Germany, Jewish Telegraphic Agency

TV reporter, TV moderator, and scriptwriter, *Deutsche Welle*

education

B.A., Bryn Mawr College

M.A., Journalism, University of Missouri

Graduate studies in M.A. program, History of Art, Washington University

awards and distinctions

Advisory Board Member, House of the Wannsee Conference, Berlin

Advisory Board Member, "Bridge of Understanding"

Advisory Board Member, "Action Reconciliation/Service for Peace"

Jury member for the section on History and Human Rights "Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and the Future"

Keynote speech, German-Jewish History Award, Berlin State Parliament

Halle Distinguished Fellow, Emory University

Keynote speech on anti-Semitism in Europe, Finnish Parliament

“I consider AJC’s efforts exemplary in regard to improving the image of Israel disseminated by the media in Germany. The many personal contacts between AJC’s representative in Germany, Deidre Berger, and German representatives of politics, society, culture, and the economy have no doubt contributed greatly to AJC’s successful work in this country.”

Reinhold Robbe, German Bundestag’s Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces

During my college years, I served on a Jewish student leadership body that met regularly in Washington. I fell in love with the city's political vibrancy, and sought to develop a career in the nation's capital that would marry my passion for political ideas and my commitment to the Jewish people. It didn't take me long to find my home in AJC, which is devoted to the highest ideals of the Jewish people and American society and to an open, high level of discourse that is rare in organizational life. After ten wonderful years of service in the Washington Chapter, I have moved into the sphere of managing and working with AJC's chapter network. During my time with the Washington Chapter, I developed a passion for organizational excellence—great organizations do great advocacy—and I want to carry forward that drive toward excellence in a way that helps to strengthen and make even more effective our chapters throughout the country.

previous posts

Program Director, AJC
Community Services
Department

AJC Washington Chapter
Director

Director of Outreach, Jewish
Community Council of
Greater Washington

Director of Media Outreach,
American Israel Public Affairs
Committee

education

B.A., Philosophy, Ohio State
University

M.A., International Affairs,
University of Dayton

One-Year Program, Hebrew
University of Jerusalem

books or publications

Author of AJC's *Israel in the
Media* and numerous op-ed
pieces in the mainstream and
Jewish press.

David Bernstein

Associate Director, Community
Services Department

bernsteind@ajc.org

David Bernstein greets Pastor John Wimberly,
chair of Presbyterians Concerned
for Christian-Jewish Relations.



**“ David Bernstein is a man whose heart is about healing,
and whose conversations bring understanding and build trust.”**

Bishop Theodore Schneider, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

If I had been asked while at college to describe my dream job, I would have said that I wanted to be an advocate for issues that I cared about. Already then, religious liberty would have been high on the list of those issues. And I would have said that it would be even better if my job dealt with specifically Jewish concerns. Following a dalliance with private practice, I came to AJC and ever since have found innumerable opportunities to do just what I dreamt of—as part of an institution with the gravitas and resources to enable the work I do to make a difference.

Richard T. Foltin

Legislative Director and Counsel,
Office of Government and International Affairs

foltinr@ajc.org



Richard Foltin with President Bill Clinton at the White House.

previous posts

AJC Director of Governmental Affairs, National Affairs Department

education

B.A., New York University, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Honors in Political Science

J.D., Harvard Law School, cum laude, Staff, Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, Member, Harvard Voluntary Defenders

Postgraduate, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel Rothberg School for Overseas Students, one-year program in Jewish law, philosophy and history

awards and distinctions

Member, Working Groups on Human Needs and Faith-Based and Community Responses, coordinated by Search for Common Ground

Member, Board of Directors, Beth Shalom Congregation, Potomac, MD

Member, 1989 Independent Judicial Screening Panel for Supreme Court of New York

Cochair, First Amendment Rights Committee, Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities, American Bar Association

Cochair, Coalition for Religious Freedom in the Workplace

Member, Board of Directors, National Immigration Forum

Member, Committee on Religious Liberty, National Council of Churches

Wasserstein Public Interest Fellow, Harvard Law School

Faculty member, Florion College of Advanced Judicial Studies (Continuing Judicial Education Program)

selected publications

Review of Domestic Affairs, *American Jewish Year Book 1996 - 2003* (Vols. 96 - 103)

“Religious Discrimination in the Workplace: Administration Policy and Practice,” in *The Test of Our Progress: The Clinton Record on Civil Rights*

“The Equal Access Act: Leave Well Enough Alone,” *Civil Rights Journal*, Fall 1998

“A New Liberalism for the 1990s?,” *Sh’ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*, No. 27/520, November 1, 1996

“Thoughts on Separation of Church and State in the Week of *Acharei Mot*,” *Quarterly* [publication of the Christian Legal Society], Fall 1995

“Religion and Education: Consensus and Conflict” in *Human Rights* 33:3 (Summer 2006)

“AJC’s extremely intelligent and thoughtful voice has won the deepest respect from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.”

U.S. Senator Gordon Smith (R-OR)

As director of AJC's Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, it is my responsibility to put into practice our most cherished ideals about justice, fairness, humanity, nondiscrimination, and the dignity of every individual woman and man, girl and boy. Only if the human rights of all persons are protected will the human rights of Jews or any other minority be protected and future conflicts avoided. Our role is to generate ideas, mobilize support for rights, devise ways to strengthen international and regional institutions and nongovernmental human rights defenders, bring people together to strengthen human rights protections, and speak out to realize these ideals and proposals in practice.

Felice Gaer

Director, Jacob Blaustein Institute
for the Advancement of Human Rights
Director of International Organizations
gaerf@ajc.org

Felice Gaer (center)
at a Washington press conference
on human rights in Darfur and Sudan
with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi,
Congressman Frank Wolf (R-VA), and
Bishop Ricardo Ramirez.



previous posts

Program Officer,
Ford Foundation

Executive Director,
International League
for Human Rights

Executive Director,
European Programs,
United Nations Association
of the U.S.A.

education

A.B. with Distinction,
Wellesley College

M.A., Columbia University,
Political Science

Master of Philosophy
(M.Ph.), Columbia University

Certificate,
Russian Institute,
Columbia University

awards and distinctions

Chair and Commissioner,
United States Federal
Commission on
International Religious
Freedom (since 2001)

Committee Against Torture
(United Nations Treaty mon-
itoring body), nominated by
the Clinton administration
and renominated by the
Bush administration, served
since 1999

Alumnae Achievement
Award, Wellesley College

Chair, Steering Committee
for the 50th Anniversary of
the Declaration of Universal
Human Rights

selected publications

"And Never the Twain Shall Meet? The Struggle to Establish Women's Rights as International Human Rights," in *The International Human Rights of Women: Instruments of Change*, American Bar Association

"Human Rights at the U.N.: The End of the Beginning," with Tom J. Farer, in Adam Roberts and Benedict Kingsbury, eds., *United Nations: Divided World: The UN's Roles in International Relations*, 2nd ed. (Oxford University Press)

"Reality Check: human rights nongovernmental organizations confront governments at the United Nations," in Thomas Weiss and Leon Gordenker, eds., *NGOs, the UN and Global Governance* (Lynn Rienner Press).

"UN-Anonymous: Reflections on Human Rights in Peacekeeping," *Human Rights Quarterly*

“Felice Gaer is the American Jewish international human rights expert in residence. During the last 20 years, no communal official has accumulated such a wealth of experience and contacts with activists, governments and the United Nations in the field of human rights.”

The Forward 50, 2002

So much of American society is imbued with religion. Often we think that since we have separation of church and state in the United States, religion doesn't count in American public life. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Ethnic issues, political issues, questions of values and ethics, from local school board decisions to major foreign policy initiatives—every part of American public life involves religion and religious thinking. To miss it is akin to not noticing the air we breathe. Heading Interreligious Affairs for AJC here in the United States is a sobering responsibility, and at the same time, an exciting opportunity. I look forward to involving more and more AJC leaders in this important and sometimes even sacred work.

Rabbi Gary Greenebaum

U.S. Director of Interreligious Affairs
greenebaumg@ajc.org

Rabbi Gary Greenebaum meets with the Reverend Dr. William Harter, who recently received AJC's Isaiah Award for Interreligious Understanding.



previous posts

AJC Western Regional Director

Has led training seminars for many religious and secular organizations and has taught at several universities, including San Francisco State University, University of Judaism, and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR)

education

B.A., University of California, Irvine

Rabbinical Degree, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

Master's degrees in Hebrew Letters and in Jewish Communal Service, HUC-JIR

awards and distinctions

Awarded the French National Order of Merit by H.E. Jean-David Levitte, Ambassador of France to the United States

Member, the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners and the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California

Advisor to the California Legislature's Joint Committee on Preparing California for the 21st Century

President of the Board of Los Angeles Police Commissioners

Member of the Board of Directors of Rebuild Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Educational Alliance for Restructuring Now

books or publications

A frequent contributor to the opinion pages of the *Los Angeles Times*, *La Opinion*, the *Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles* and the *Daily News*

A regular guest on KCRW-FM's "Which Way LA?," KPCC's "AirTalk," and cable television's "Week in Review"

“ Gary Greenebaum is what I would call an ambassador within—a creative problem-solver and a creator of common ground. He skillfully navigates between and among our country’s splendidly diverse faith communities, strengthening bonds of mutual understanding and respect with each thoughtful, determined step he takes. ”

Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor of Los Angeles

I feel fortunate to work at AJC, which provides a professional environment where reverence for the written word, rootedness in the Jewish past, and passionate concern for the Jewish future come together. Historic responsibility rests on my shoulders: Whatever appears in the *American Jewish Year Book*—the authoritative annual record of Jewish civilization—is what coming generations will know about the Jewish experience of our time. To the degree that the book is clear, accurate, and objective, I am adding strong links to the sacred chain of Jewish memory.

Dr. Lawrence Grossman

Editor, *American Jewish Year Book*
and Associate Director of Research

grossmanl@ajc.org



Dr. Larry Grossman stands before a complete set of the *American Jewish Year Book*, now in its 106th year of publication.

previous posts

Department of History,
Yeshiva University
(Instructor, Assistant Prof.,
Associate Prof.)

Adjunct faculty, History and
Jewish Studies, Herbert H.
Lehman College, New York
University, Queens College

National Institute for the
Humanities Grants

education

B.A., summa cum laude,
valedictorian, Yeshiva Uni-
versity

M.A. in History, Columbia
University

Rabbinical Ordination and
M.A., Yeshiva University

Ph.D. in History, with hon-
ors, City University of New
York Graduate Center (Dan-
forth Fellow, Lehman Fel-
low)

awards and distinctions

Frequent lecturer on cur-
rent Jewish issues at syna-
gogues, Jewish community
centers, retreats

Instructor in the Melton
Adult Education Minischool

Conducts weekly Friday
night class on the Torah
portion at Young Israel of
Jamaica Estates, Queens,
NY

Presenter at the annual
Orthodox Forum, 2007, on
Religious Zionism

books or publications

Author of over 100 essays and book reviews, including the annual article on “Jewish Communal Affairs” in the *American Jewish Year Book* since 1988; contributions to *Encyclopedia Judaica*, 2nd edition, *Encyclopedia of American Jewish History*, *Jewish-American History and Culture*, and *Jewish American Voluntary Organizations*; “The Organized Jewish Community and Evangelicals” in *Uneasy Allies: Jews and Evangelicals Today*; “Jews—Middle Atlantic and Beyond” in *Religion and Public Life in the Middle Atlantic Region*; “Jewish Religious Denominations” in *Cambridge Companion to American Judaism*; “Mainstream Orthodoxy and the American Public Square” in *Jewish Polity and American Civil Society*; and “Transformation through Crisis: the American Jewish Committee and the Six-Day War” in *American Jewish History*.

“The *American Jewish Year Book* is the single most authoritative and useful volume on the condition of American and world Jewry. No one concerned with Jewish life and issues can operate without it.”

Nathan Glazer, professor emeritus, Harvard University

The more I work in the Jewish community, the more I understand the unique qualities of this agency. AJC encompasses the world of ideas, of commitment, and of action. It's my safe harbor of civility, collegiality, decency, humanity, integrity, and reason in an otherwise stormy world. It's my way to leverage my voice. I confess, even after all these years, that I can't wait to get to work every day, knowing that each day affords an opportunity to do something, somewhere, to bring us a little closer to the world we all dream of for our children and their children.

David A. Harris

Executive Director

harrisd@ajc.org

David Harris greets President George W. Bush at AJC's 100th Annual Meeting.



previous posts

U.S.-Soviet Teachers' Exchange, Moscow and Leningrad, USSR
Refugee Resettlement Officer, HIAS, Rome, Italy, and Vienna, Austria
Director of Government and International Relations, AJC
Visiting Scholar, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies
Chair, UN Watch

education

B.A., University of Pennsylvania, honors in History
M.Sc., Ph.D. studies, London School of Economics, International Relations
Junior Associate, Oxford University (St Antony's College), Russian Studies

awards and distinctions

Member, Council on Foreign Relations
Trustee, Connecticut College
Presidential Medal from Bulgarian President Georgi Parvanov
Doctor of Humane Letters, Hebrew Union College, New York
Lifetime Achievement Award, Russian Jewish Community
Gold Cross of the German Armed Forces, from German Defense Minister Peter Struck

Commander's Cross of Merit with Stars, from Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski
Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, from French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy
Centennial Anniversary Distinguished Leadership Award, American Jewish Committee

books

The Jewish World
Entering a New Culture
In the Trenches, Volumes 1-4
The Jokes of Oppression (coauthor)
In Russian (translation of his English writings):
Hopes and Challenges at the Beginning of the Century
I Am My Brother's Keeper

**“Freedom has no more steadfast and eloquent defender
and tyranny no more tenacious foe than David Harris.”**

Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of Latvia

I'm proud to play a role in building bridges between France and the U.S., in advocating for Israel, and in providing support to French Jews in their fight against anti-Semitism. AJC is now the most important international Jewish partner of the French government and is consulted regularly by French officials to establish contacts in the U.S. Its deep understanding of the situation in the Middle East, its worldwide network, its strong commitment to the defense of human rights and democratic pluralism have made AJC the most respected American Jewish organization in France.

Valerie Hoffenberg

AJC Representative in Paris

hoffenbergv@ajc.org

During an AJC mission to Europe, Valerie Hoffenberg in the French Senate with mission participant Eli Epstein (c.) and French prime minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin.



previous posts

Member, Political Commission, CRIF

education

B.A., University of Paris

Law Degree, University of Paris, Assaf

Master's degree, University of Paris, in Political Science

awards and distinctions

Vice-President, French-Israeli Association for the Support of the Victims of Terror

Medaille de la République, by French Minister of the Interior, Nicolas Sarkozy, January 2007

“I thank you for the remarkable work you do and for the high-quality information that you provide to me, which powerfully helps me to intervene in the Senate on questions related to the Middle East and to the fight against terrorism, racism and anti-Semitism.”

Jean-Pierre Placade, Vice-President of the Commission on International Affairs, Defense, and Armed Forces, French Senate

In my years at AJC—beginning just after the end of the Cold War—the world has grown smaller, and the threats to our values and interests both stronger and more diffuse. Responding to the opportunities of global, 24/7 political advocacy and to the menace of global terrorism rooted in zealous intolerance, while remaining true to the noble ideals at the core of the American Jewish Committee, has been my mission and my passion. I’m privileged to play a role, with talented and dedicated colleagues, in equipping AJC to meet these challenges in the United States and around the world.

Jason Isaacson

Director of Government and International Affairs

isaacsonj@ajc.org



Jason Isaacson at a meeting in Doha with Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Saud Al-Thani, chief of Amiri Diwan (Cabinet of the Emir) and former ambassador of Qatar to Washington.

previous posts

Chief of Staff; Press Secretary:
Office of Senator Christopher
J. Dodd, Washington

Founding editor:
Independent News Service,
Washington

Press Secretary: Office of Rep-
resentative William R. Ratch-
ford, Washington

Editor, reporter, columnist:
Connecticut daily and weekly
newspapers

education

B.A., Vassar College

Senior Visitor, St Antony’s
College, Oxford University

awards and distinctions

Guest lecturer, Institute for
Diplomatic Studies, Egyptian
Foreign Ministry

Convention keynote speaker,
National Federation of Indi-
an-American Associations

Annual Dinner guest speaker,
Federation of Jewish Commu-
nities of Spain

Expert witness, U.S. House
International Relations Com-
mittee hearing on terrorism
in North Africa

books or publications

Islam in Asia, co-edited with
Dr. Colin Rubenstein

One-Sided (annual review of
UN General Assembly resolu-
tions on Israel)

*Diplomatic Meetings Annual
Report* (confidential volume
on AJC diplomatic exchanges)

“Jason’s talented leadership has strengthened ties between the Jewish community, Israel, and many nations around the world, some of which do not have diplomatic relations with Israel. His nonstop efforts are helping to make a better world for us and for our children.”

Ron Prozor, former Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and incoming Ambassador to the Court of St. James

I have dedicated my entire adult life to the State of Israel and the Jewish cause, first as a combat officer in the Israeli Defense Forces, and then for many years as an Israeli diplomat. I believe in the unity of Jewish fate and purpose, and in strong ties between Israel and Diaspora Jewry. Indeed, as a Zionist, I believe that Israel belongs not only to its citizens, Jews and Arabs, but to every Jew in every corner of the world. Working for AJC allows me to serve the Jewish cause while using my skills as a diplomat.

Aaron Jacob

Associate Director of International Affairs

jacoba@ajc.org



Aaron Jacob shares a word with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

previous posts

Captain (res.) in the Armored Corps, IDF (served as a combat frontline officer in the IDF and participated in three wars)

Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN at the rank of ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary

Retired from the Foreign Service in 2005 at the rank of ambassador

education

B.A., Ben-Gurion University
Advanced Studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem,
Institute for Contemporary Jewry

awards and distinctions

Award as Exceptional Diplomat in the Foreign Service of the State of Israel
Director General's Prize for Excellence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel

books or publications

Collected Statements at the United Nations before the UN General Assembly and Security Council 1998-2002

Op-ed articles in U.S. Jewish media

Numerous analytical and policy papers for Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Numerous analytical papers and policy guidelines on international affairs for AJC

“Aaron Jacob’s professionalism, commitment, and erudition served Israel well when he was its deputy permanent representative to the UN. Today, with the American Jewish Committee, Aaron continues brilliantly in that work, helping to strengthen Israel’s standing around the world and bolster the Jewish people.”

Ambassador Dan Gillerman, Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN

I'm passionate about the American Jewish Committee and its mission, and I'm deeply gratified to be in a position where my efforts enable this organization to pursue its goals and advance its agenda in the public arena. It is my privilege and pleasure to work closely each day with a team of dedicated and talented lay leaders and staff who understand the importance of what we do and take personal pride and satisfaction in the financial growth AJC has achieved year after year for nearly two decades now.

Jaime Kelstein

Senior Assistant Executive Director for
Institutional Development
National Director of Development
kelsteinj@ajc.org



Jaime Kelstein (c.) with Roy J. Zuckerberg,
Senior Director, Goldman Sachs Group (l.)
and Gershon Kekst, President, Kekst and Company.

education

B.S., Long Island University

awards and distinctions

Watchdog organizations that monitor nonprofits give AJC their highest ratings, which include an evaluation for percentage of income spent on fundraising: four stars from Charity Navigator; an "A" from the American Institute of Philanthropy; and a listing among the "Top 400" nonprofits in the nation from the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*.

“After working with him closely on countless challenging projects, I’ve come to the conclusion that Jaime Kelstein is nothing short of a master builder when it comes to the hard work of constructing and cultivating a successful development team and a flourishing board of trustees. ”

Michael Gould, President and CEO, Bloomingdale's, and Chairman of AJC Board of Trustees

My responsibilities include creating, developing and implementing a variety of programs aimed toward successfully integrating Russian Jews into the American Jewish community and into American society. I also serve as a liaison between AJC and Russian Jewish communities and organizations in the U.S. and around the globe and am involved in AJC diplomatic work with the countries of the Former Soviet Union. I immigrated to the U.S. from Moscow, Russia, in 1990 after being a “refusenik” for many years in the 1980s, where I was involved in underground Jewish activities fighting for human rights and freedom of emigration. It is a great honor and a privilege for a former “refusenik” to work for the most globally respected American Jewish organization.

Dr. Sam Kliger

Director of Russian-Jewish
Community Affairs

kligers@ajc.org

Sam Kliger with former New York
City mayor Rudolph Giuliani.



previous posts

Coordinator of American
and Jewish Acculturation
Programs, NYANA

Adjunct Professor,
Bramson College

Adjunct Professor, Kings
College and Molloy College

Counselor, Jewish Board
of Family and Children
Services

Senior Researcher,
Institute of Sociology, USSR
Academy of Sciences,
Moscow, Russia

education

M.S., Kazan State University,
Mathematics

Ph.D., USSR Academy of
Sciences, Moscow, Russia,
Sociology

awards and distinctions

Chairman of the Board,
Research Institute for New
Americans

Phil Soskis Memorial Award
from NYANA for “educating
and acculturating newly
arrived émigrés to American
society”

Presenter, First National
Conference on Russian
Jewish Lay Leadership:
“From Immigration and
Resettlement to Integration
and Engagement,”
Washington, D.C.,
American Jewish Committee

books or publications

“Russian Jews in New York” (with
Walter Ruby), *Encyclopedia Judaica*, 2nd
edition

“Russian Immigrants in America: Fears
and Hopes,” in Vladimir Shlapentokh
and Eric Shiraev, eds., *Fears in Post-
Communist Societies: A Comparative
Perspective* (Palgrave)

“The Religion of New York Jews from
the Former Soviet Union,” in Tony
Carnes and Anna Karpathakis, eds.,
*New York Glory: Religion in Contem-
porary New York City* (NYU Press)

“The Future Belongs to Me: Russian
Students and their Religious Views,” in
Vladimir Shlapentokh, Christopher
Vanderpool, Boris Doktorov, eds., *The
New Elite in Post-Communist Eastern
Europe*, (Texas A&M University Press)

**“ I’m a 2002 graduate of AJC’s Russian Jewish Leadership program,
and I’m extremely grateful to AJC for this truly pioneering effort.
The program gave me, and it is giving many others, tremendous help in
transitioning into the American Jewish community and American society in general.,”**

Alec Brook-Krasny, the first Soviet-born member of the New York State Assembly

Working at AJC over the years has been a priceless opportunity for me to keep learning more and more about the Jewish condition and about how to reinforce Jewish identity. In other words, while doing the best I can at AJC to serve the Jewish people, I've had the chance, essentially, to also take an endless and thoroughly enjoyable graduate program in Jewish studies. Shortly after becoming director of AJC's office in Buenos Aires in 1970, I worked successfully to introduce programs in Jewish life and culture in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile. Those programs are symbols for me of what I have hoped most to accomplish at AJC—which is not only to strengthen pluralism and democratic values and to counter anti-Semitism, but also to reinforce Jewish identity and remind Jews everywhere of our people's precious heritage.

Jacob Kovadloff

Senior Consultant on Latin American Affairs

kovadloffj@ajc.org

In Buenos Aires, Argentina, Jacob Kovadloff (fourth from left) stands with Jewish communal leaders at a statue honoring the memory of Holocaust rescuer Raoul Wallenberg.



previous posts

Director of AJC's South American office in Buenos Aires, Argentina

He was forced to close the Buenos Aires office in 1977, due to threats on his life and the lives of his family members as a result of AJC efforts to assist those persecuted by the military dictatorship that took over the country in 1976 and ruled until 1983.

Kovadloff and his family fled the country, as did hundreds of others.

In Argentina, he had occupied various posts at the *Sociedad Hebraica Argenti-*

na, serving as president from 1956 to 1960. He was also a member of many other institutions within the Argentine Jewish community, including the DAIA; Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; the Institute of Argentinean-Israeli Cultural exchange; the Argentinean Commission for the Rights of Soviet Jews; the Argentinean Committee of Support for Jews in Arabic Countries; and the Institute Argentinean-Judeo of Culture and Information. He also served as executive director of the Keren Hayesod of Argentina.

education

B.S., Otto Krausse Polytechnic, Buenos Aires
Postgraduate courses in history and literature, Colegio Libre Estudios Superiores

awards and distinctions

Founder of the first courses in Jewish Studies at the University of Salvador (Jesuit)

Helped found LAJSA (*Latin American Jewish Association*)

Chosen as delegate to the Conference of Jewish Leaders from Communities of the World, convened by Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol

American Jewish Committee's Staff Leadership Award, 2004

“ Everyone who knows him is very well aware of Jacob's kindness and his simple human decency. Jacob is a *mensch* who also happens to be an immensely experienced, highly-skilled diplomat, and an indispensable friend to the Jewish communities of Latin America.”

Abraham Kaul, then president of AMIA, the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association

For historical reasons, Poland is and will remain important for Jews in America and elsewhere. I find it essential, and I strive in my work, to help in the process of having Jews accurately informed about Poland, as well as Poles about Jews. The Polish church is an important ingredient of the present-day universal Roman Catholic Church, so the relations of Polish clergy with Jews and their attitude toward the Jewish heritage have a wide significance. In addition, Poland is an important member of the EU and of NATO, and its role in these bodies should be of interest not just for Poles but also for the U.S., Israel, and Jews in general.

Stanislaw Krajewski

AJC Representative in Poland
 krajewskis@ajc.org



At the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stanislaw Krajewski (c.) presents an AJC book on human rights hero Raphael Lemkin to Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Polish minister of foreign affairs (r.), and Leon Kieres, director of the Polish Institute of National Remembrance.

current post

Professor, Institute of Philosophy, Warsaw University

education

M.A., Warsaw University
 Ph.D. in Mathematics, Institute of Mathematics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw
 Habilitation degree in Philosophy, Department of Philosophy and Sociology, Warsaw University

awards and distinctions

Board member, International Council of Christians and Jews
 Cochair, Polish Council of Christians and Jews
 Board member, Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland (past)
 Member, International Council of the Auschwitz Camp Museum and Memorial, until 2006
 Interfaith Gold Medallion presented by the International Council of Christians and Jews
 Jerzy Kosinski Jewish Presence Award

books or publications

In English: *Poland and the Jews: Reflections of a Polish Polish Jew*
 In Polish:
Jews, Judaism, and Poland
Commentaries on the Torah for Even the Least Religious Among Us
Godel's Theorem and Its Philosophical Interpretations: from Mechanism to Postmodernism

“ Stanislaw Krajewski is a key Jewish intellectual in Poland. His scholarly achievements and public involvement have changed the reality of Christian-Jewish relations.”

Andrzej Folwarczny, founding president of the Forum for Dialogue Among Nations Foundation and a former member of the Polish National Parliament

I have been given the privilege of being an ambassador to my own country, representing what people often call “the State Department of the Jewish People.” It is with pride and a commitment to excellence that our office represents AJC in Israel. The multifaceted and fascinating nature of our endeavors includes the work of Project Interchange and the visits by high-level AJC leadership and solidarity missions; the constant effort to bring Israeli society into greater awareness of the life and strategic role of American Jewry; and my own ongoing role as an interpreter of regional developments to AJC members, and of American affairs—to a select Israeli readership

Col. (res.) Dr. Eran Lerman

Director, Israel and Middle East Office
in Jerusalem

lermane@ajc.org.il

Dr. Eran Lerman with Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon.



previous posts

Served in the Directorate of Military Intelligence of the IDF in various capacities.

Member of Israel’s delegation to the Arms Control and Regional Security working group, 1992-95

Retired from IDF to teach at Haifa University in 1989, but reenlisted as a senior analyst on international affairs, October 1990.

Retired from the IDF in 2001 as a full colonel, having been the Assistant for Strategic Analysis to the Director, Research and Production Division.

education

B.A., Tel Aviv University, summa cum Laude, Middle Eastern and General History

Ph.D., London School of Economics, dissertation on Anglo-Egyptian relations in the 1940s

Kennedy School of Government, Wexner Fellow, Mid-Career MPA

awards and distinctions

Lecturer at Tel Aviv University and the National Defense College. Invited speaker on Middle Eastern and Mediterranean affairs, U.S. policy, and the role of American Jewry in the U.S.-Israeli relationship, to a broad variety of groups in Israel and abroad

Since 2002, a regular participant in the “Track II” meetings on the future of Middle East and Mediterranean Security, and a member of Israel’s Atlantic Forum.

Represented Israel in a meeting in Garmisch Partenkirchen on the future role of NATO and the EU in the Mediterranean.

books or publications

“The Arab League and the Post-War Order,” in Moshe Gamber, ed., *Political Thought and Political History: Studies in Memory of Elie Kedourie* (Taylor and Francis)

“*Ha-Otzma ve ha-Etgar—Yahadut Arhab ve-Yisrael*” “The Power and the Challenge: American Jewry and Israel,” in *Mifne*

“Israel’s Strategic Environment during The Cold War Era” (in Hebrew) in *The Texture of Security: Issues in National Security*

“A Revolution Prefigured: Foreign Policy Orientation in the Postwar Years,” in Shimon Shamir, ed., *Egypt from Monarchy to Republic: A Reassessment of Revolution and Change* (Westview)

“Your remarks were very well received by speakers and participants alike. Overall, your exceptional contribution was recognized, well received, and very greatly appreciated, reflecting admirably on your organization. ”

Organizers of Conference on Mediterranean Security, 2006, at the George C. Marshall Center

My entire career at AJC has focused on the chapters. To be truly a national organization, AJC has to have an impact beyond New York and Washington in major Jewish communities throughout the country. It does so through its chapters, which interpret and implement AJC's positions and programs on the ground and at the same time inform the national office of concerns of Jews throughout the country on relevant issues. And those same chapters provide many of the human and monetary resources AJC needs to maintain the level of excellence that distinguishes it among so many other organizations.

Jonathan Levine

Director, Community Services Department

levinej@ajc.org

previous posts

AJC Midwest Regional Director,
Chicago

AJC Pittsburgh Area Director
Adjunct Assistant Professor of
History, University of Pitts-
burgh

Director, Pennsylvania Ethnic
Studies Center, University of
Pittsburgh

Editor, *Historical Methods*

education

B.Music, Eastman School
of Music

B.A., Cornell University

M.A., American History,
New York University



At an AJC dinner in Chicago, Jonathan Levine presents the Emily and Richard Alschuler Award to attorney Stanley Weinberger (r.).

**“It’s been my absolute pleasure to work with Jon Levine,
an experienced, dedicated, and extremely intelligent person
who knows AJC’s mission well and works amazingly hard to get it accomplished.”**

David Rousso, private investor and Chair, AJC’s Community Services Commission

AJC gives me the opportunity to translate my love and passion for the Jewish people into intelligent action. Intense, honest, and relevant policy discussion and debate among lay leaders and professionals is very much a part of the landscape in AJC's Department of Contemporary Jewish Life. We strive to bring that same intensity to the task of implementation, of seeking impact and results. Moreover, my work in the Koppelman Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations has given me the chance to express appreciation for the gift of the State of Israel through a range of programs that bring Israeli and American Jews closer together. At AJC you can expand your Jewish mind and nourish your Jewish heart to the benefit of the Jewish people and all humanity.

Rabbi Noam Marans

Associate Director, Contemporary Jewish Life

maransn@ajc.org

L. to r.: Rabbi Noam Marans, Leon Wieseltier, and AJC Centennial Chair Ambassador Alfred H. Moses listening to a presentation at the AJC Centennial Symposium, which Rabbi Marans coordinated.



previous posts

Rabbi, Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center, Ridgewood, New Jersey

Faculty, Rabbinical School, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

education

B.A., Political Science, Columbia University

M.A., Judaic Studies and Rabbinic Ordination, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Graduate Judaic Studies, Hebrew University

awards and distinctions

Martin Luther King Civic Leadership Award

Past President, North Jersey Board of Rabbis

Scholar-in-Residence, Center for Southern Jewry, Clayton, GA

Cyrus Adler Award, Outstanding Rabbinical School Senior

Lecturer, Florence Melton Adult Mini-School, UJA Federation of Northern New Jersey

High Holy Day Rabbi, Morristown Jewish Center, Morristown, New Jersey

books or publications

Co-editor and translator, *The A.B. Yehoshua Controversy: An Israel-Diaspora Dialogue on Jewishness, Israeli-ness, and Identity*

Co-author, *Intra-Jewish Dialogue: Back to the Sources*

Op-ed pieces in the *New Jersey Jewish Standard*, *Bergen Record*, and *Daily News*

“Through the annual Israel National Defense College study mission in the U.S., sponsored by AJC’s Koppelman Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations, Rabbi Noam Marans has fostered a vital, essential and ongoing relationship between the leadership of the Israel Defense Forces and the American Jewish community. His contribution to forging these bonds has truly been outstanding.”

Brigadier General (Ret.) Dr. Joseph Ben Ari

The mission of UN Watch—to hold the UN to the highest ideals of its founders, to combat anti-Semitism and anti-Israel bias, to promote human rights for all—is the mission of everyone who cares about the credibility of the United Nations and the integrity of international human rights law.

Hillel Neuer

Executive Director, UN Watch

hcneuer@unwatch.org



Hillel Neuer makes a presentation on CNN.

previous posts

Litigation Associate, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison

Law clerk, Chambers of Justice Itzhak Zamir, Supreme Court of Israel

Graduate fellow, Shalem Center

education

B.A., Concordia University

B.C.L. and LL.B., McGill University Faculty of Law

LL.M., Comparative Constitutional Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

awards and distinctions

Frequent appearances before the UN Human Rights Council
Testified before hearings of U.S. Congress as expert witness on UN reform

Quoted regularly by major media organizations including the *New York Times*, *Die Welt*, *Le Figaro*, and Reuters

Debated UN human rights issues on CNN, FOX News, and the BBC

Cited by the U.S. federal court of the Southern District of New York for the high quality of pro bono human rights advocacy on a precedent-setting case for prisoners' rights and freedom of religion

books or publications

“So far, a profound disappointment,” *International Herald Tribune*, Sept. 7, 2006

“Rights and Wrongs,” *The New Republic Online*, Feb. 18, 2005

“Israel’s Imperial Judiciary,” *Commentary Magazine*, Oct. 1999

“Hillel Neuer is a leading commentator on UN human rights reform. ”

Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ), Chairman, Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee

The confidence of the individual in his freedom to assemble and speak out to make a difference is arguably the greatest source of America’s welfare. AJC’s founders recognized this. They were prosperous and grateful for their privilege, but they did not feel secure unless others who shared their values, both within and without their faith, were secure as well. Pluralism, they recognized, marries enlightened self-interest with understanding, respect, empathy, and engagement.

Africa is a continent at least as rich and diverse as America. Some of its issues—development, good governance, and human rights—have always been AJC’s own. The Africa Institute reaches out to members of governments and civil society in Africa to find common cause and help “repair the world.”

Eliseo Neuman

Director, The Africa Institute
neumane@ajc.org



Eliseo Neuman with
UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

previous posts

Advisor to the Chief Prosecutor,
International Criminal Court

Associate, Davis Polk
& Wardwell

Associate, Goldman Sachs & Co
(IBD)

education

A.B., Harvard College

B.A., University of Cambridge

J.D., Harvard Law School

“I consider the work of AJC’s Africa Institute to be not only significant, but catalytic—in terms of gaining a better understanding of our continent from the rest of the world. The institute’s advocacy on behalf of democratic values and many other issues has won the admiration of African political and cultural leaders. ”

Obiageli Ezekwesili, Nigerian minister of education

I feel fortunate to work for an organization that has developed me as an individual and as a professional. I have always seen my role—in the international aspect of my job, and in the work with ACCESS and our new generation projects—as a communicator. In the end, we have only the power of words and ideas with which to make a difference, but that should not be underestimated or dismissed. I think it is passion and the dedication and intelligence to learn that must drive our efforts to make the world better for Jews and for all people. What a privilege it is to be able to work on that. The opportunity to direct the Goldman Fellows program and our ACCESS New Generation initiative has been extremely gratifying—and a great chance to interact with amazing people of my generation and to help make AJC the right fit for them and vice versa.

Rebecca Neuwirth

Director of Special Projects,
including Director of ACCESS and the
AJC Goldman Fellows Program
Executive Director of Thanks To Scandinavia
neuwirthr@ajc.org

Rebecca Neuwirth with an AJC delegation
at a meeting with German officials in Berlin.



previous posts

Special Assistant to AJC's
Executive Director

education

B.A., Yale University, magna
cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa
M.A., The Free University,
Berlin, Germany, Education,
Political Science
One-year Fellowship from
the German Academic
Exchange Program, which
works with the Fulbright
Scholar Program in the U.S.

awards and distinctions

Montblanc de la Culture Arts
Patronage Award for having
founded High 5 Tickets to the
Arts organization
Board member, High 5 Tickets
to the Arts—a nonprofit arts
and education organization
Winner of the Hajo Holborn
Award for the best Yale senior
essay from the German
Consulate
Selected to go on the first
young Jewish leadership diplo-
matic seminar in Israel, organ-
ized by the Israeli Minister of
Foreign Affairs
Selected for a Nahum
Goldmann Fellowship by
the Memorial Foundation
for Jewish Culture

books or publications

Translated a book on sociology in edu-
cation by German sociologist Niklas
Luhmann
Authored *Ikar: Israel Knowledge, Advo-
cacy and Responsibility Curriculum* in
conjunction with Solomon Schechter
HS in NY
Edited several AJC publications for
students
Wrote “Divestment Deception: Legal
and Political Answers to Divestment
Claims” for AJC
Published an article in *Das Parlament*,
a German publication, on 9-11
Published an article in *Jyllandsposten*,
a Danish newspaper, in defense of
Israel

“With her passion, warmth, and great intelligence, Rebecca Neuwirth possesses an uncanny ability to communicate Jewish hopes and ideals in a way that inspires others. I’m referring both to non-Jews who may be largely unfamiliar with Jewish life, and also to Jews who are familiar with it but have chosen in the past not to get involved.”

Richard Netter, Partner, Singer Netter Dowd & Berman, and president, Thanks To Scandinavia

The Transatlantic Institute is based on the conviction that Europe and the United States can learn much from one another, and that by working together, much more can be achieved. We work to facilitate an open and ongoing exchange of views in the wake of potential and existing tensions. Taking up the post of director at the Transatlantic Institute was a very exciting opportunity. As a European with a strong commitment to Israel and as a believer in the transatlantic alliance, I am under no illusions about the difficult challenges ahead. But where there is a challenge, AJC has always seen an opportunity. I think Europe offers us both. My role—and the role of the Transatlantic Institute—is to seize that opportunity and facilitate transatlantic cooperation on the many challenges of our times.

Dr. Emanuele Ottolenghi

Executive Director, Transatlantic Institute

ottolenghi@transatlanticinstitute.org



Dr. Emanuele Ottolenghi leads a conference at AJC's Transatlantic Institute in Brussels.

previous posts

British Council Fellowship
Junior Research Fellow in Israel Studies, the Middle East Centre (St Antony's College) and the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford University
University Research Lecturer in Israel Studies, Oxford University
Leone Ginzburg Research Fellow in Israeli Politics, Law and Society, the Middle East Centre (St Antony's College) and the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford University

education

B.A., University of Bologna, cum laude
Ph.D., Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

awards and distinctions

Scholar in Residence, Shalom College, Sydney, Summer 2003
Visiting Scholar, The American Enterprise Institute, January-April 2005

books or publications

Israel's Constitutional System (in Italian, co-edited with Tania Groppi and Alfredo Mordechai Rabello), Torino, Giappichelli, June 2006

Autodafe': Europe, Jews, and Anti-Semitism, Torino, Lindau, January 2007 (in Italian)

"Europe's Good Jews," *Commentary*, December 2005

Columnist, *Il Foglio* (Italian daily)

Columnist, *Il Riformista* (Italian Daily)

Columnist, *Shalom* (Italian Jewish monthly)

“The Transatlantic Institute has been at the forefront of global political thought, and we are excited to work with its executive director, Emanuele Ottolenghi, as we take Transatlantic’s provocative programs and present them to people all over the world. ”

Brian Gruber, founder and CEO, ForaTV, one of the world’s leading multimedia Internet portals for public affairs programming

Working for AJC is a unique and inspiring daily adventure. In my double capacity as AJC's representative to the Italian government as well as liaison to the Holy See, I have the great pleasure of coordinating and facilitating work in these two spheres with AJC's international leadership—in particular with David Harris, Jason Isaacson, Aaron Jacob, and the Office of Government and International Affairs, and with Rabbi David Rosen, the international director of Interreligious Relations who is based in Israel. My passion for Israel receives further satisfaction through my work with AJC's marvelous Project Interchange seminars.

Lisa Palmieri-Billig

AJC Representative in Rome
and Liaison to the Holy See

billigl@ajc.org



Lisa Palmieri-Billig at the Vatican with Pope John Paul II.

previous posts

Vice moderator, Religions for Peace/Europe
Representative in Rome and liaison to the Holy See for the Anti-Defamation League
Served in similar capacity in the Rome office of World Jewish Congress
Lecturer in the English Language Departments of Columbia University, CCNY, Queens College, University of Puerto Rico, NYU, the New School of Social Research, the American Overseas School of Rome, and ORT in Rome

education

B.A., Barnard College
M.A., Columbia University Teachers College
Working on a Ph.D. at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome

awards and distinctions

Rome correspondent, the *Jerusalem Post*
Member of the Foreign Press Association in Rome
Member of the Press Room of the Holy See
Frequent speaking assignments in Italian, English, and German on interreligious relations, Israel and the Middle East
First president of the Christian-Jewish Friendship Association of Rome
Organized a major interreligious conference in Rome sponsored by the mayor of Rome, the Austrian Foreign Ministry, and Religions for Peace on "Media and Truth: An Interreligious Approach to Ethical Reporting"

books or publications

Many articles on the papacies of John Paul II and Benedict XVI for the *Jerusalem Post*, and other English and Italian publications, as well as political analysis of the Italian scene
Essays on "Europe, the Jews and Israel" and "Media and the Middle East", (in Italian) in *Diritto e Liberta*
Interview with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger on "Jews and Judaism in the Catechism of the Catholic Church," 1991, published simultaneously in *Studi Cattolici* and in *Midstream*
Interviews with I.B. Singer, Norman Podhoretz, Elie Wiesel, and Alfred Kazin for book by Franco Palmieri

“Lisa is a builder of bridges and relationships between the Catholic Church and the Jewish people. She communicates with warmth, sensitivity, acumen, and knowledge of the issues and players. She engages her partners in dialogue with deep commitment, yet knows very well how to represent the values and ideals of her own tradition.”

Monsignor Ambrogio Spreafico, Rector of the Pontifical Urbanian University in Rome and Director of Relations with Judaism of the St. Egidio Community

No Jewish organization in the world has the record or standing of the American Jewish Committee in the field of interreligious relations. Our pedigree and level of access give us a tremendous opportunity and place a heavy responsibility on us to further advance the well-being of world Jewry and humanity at large. Because religion is so inextricably bound up with the different components of our identities, where these are used negatively, religion is caught up all too often within these conflicts. But it is religion that has precisely the very capacity to counteract conflict and negative exploitation of our differences, through emphasizing the commonality that should bind people together in human solidarity, above and beyond the particular different components of our identities.

Rabbi David Rosen

International Director of AJC's Department of Interreligious Affairs and the Heilbrunn Institute for International Interreligious Understanding

rosend@ajc.org.il

Rabbi David Rosen shares a handshake in St. Peter's Square with Pope Benedict XVI.



previous posts

Director, ADL Israel Office
 Member of bilateral negotiating commission of the State of Israel and the Holy See
 Professor of Jewish Studies, the Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies
 Chief rabbi of Ireland
 Senior rabbi of largest Jewish congregation in South Africa
 Faculty member, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity University, Dublin

education

Undergraduate studies, London University and Pretoria University
 Graduate studies, Trinity University, Dublin
 Rabbinical ordination, Mirrer and Ponivez Yeshivas

awards and distinctions

President, the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC)
 Delegate of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel's Commission for Interreligious Dialogue
 Copresident, Religions for Peace (World Conference on Religion and Peace)
 Honorary President, the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)
 Founder and Vice-Chairman, Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI)

books or publications

"Democracy - A Moral Imperative in Judaism" in Alan Race and Ingrid Shafer, eds., *Religions in Dialogue: From Theocracy to Democracy*, (Ashgate Publishing, UK)
 "Israel-Vatican Relations since the Fundamental Agreement" in Marshall J. Breger, ed., *The Vatican-Israel Accords - Political, Legal and Theological Contexts*, (Univ. of Notre Dame Press)
Religion as a Tool for Good and Evil (AJC)
The Christian and the Pharisee with Rev. R.T. Kendall (Hodder & Stoughton)

“Rabbi Rosen is one of the most important Jewish leaders in interfaith relations in the world. He is a fair partner who wants to understand Christianity and struggles to overcome misunderstandings and slander; a man of peace and dialogue who builds bridges in his work for reconciliation and peace. Rosen acts from the depths of his Jewish faith.”

Cardinal Walter Kasper, President of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with Jewry

I am convinced that the American Jewish community must look both inward and outward for its security and well-being. These conditions are deeply connected to an America characterized by social and economic justice for all its inhabitants. I know that we “may not complete the task,” but I believe that “we are not free to desist” from working to strengthen our democracy and an affirmatively pluralistic society. Building relationships across lines of ethnicity, religion, and national origin serves those ends, and AJC’s long record in this area is a platform from which to construct the next and very different era in intergroup relations.

Ann Schaffer

Director, Arthur and Rochelle Belfer
Center for American Pluralism

schaffera@ajc.org



Ann Schaffer greets civil rights leader Harry Bright, former chair of the White Plains Human Rights Commission.

previous posts

Executive Director, AJC
Westchester Chapter

education

B.A., Honors, University of
Cape Town, South Africa

awards and distinctions

Founding member and chair, Westchester Coalition for Democracy
Coordinator, Westchester Coalition for Human Rights
Woman of the Year by the Women’s Equality Day Committee
Community Service Award by the Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.
Public Citizen of the Year Award, National Association of Social Workers
Annual Community Award, NYCLU
Vice President for Program, Executive Committee, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation
President, Bet Am Shalom Synagogue, White Plains

books or publications

“Latinos and Jews: The Inescapable Network of Mutuality,” in *Latinos and Jews: Old Luggage, New Itineraries* (AJC)

“I am deeply impressed by AJC’s wonderful work building bridges of understanding between diverse religious and ethnic groups.”

Steven Spielberg, Chairman, Righteous Persons Foundation

I am so proud to play a role in introducing potential leaders to the important work of the American Jewish Committee and in helping individuals make the financial investment in AJC that makes that work possible. I believe that, as Jews, we bear a fundamental responsibility for one another, and to the continued vitality of our shared history, heritage, and traditions. Therefore, it has been deeply gratifying to help direct financial and intellectual resources to this agency which works each day to try to shape the best possible future for the Jewish community.

Julie Schair

Director of Donor Relations
in the Office of the Executive Director
Special Assistant to the Executive Director
schairj@ajc.org



At an event celebrating the success of AJC's Centennial Campaign, Julie Schair with AJC executive director David A. Harris (l.) and AJC honorary president Bruce Ramer, who served as a centennial campaign cochair.

previous posts

Director of Capital Campaign and Donor Relations, American Jewish Committee

Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations, NYU Law School

Development Associate, Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California at Berkeley

education

B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton, Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society

J.D., George Washington University National Law Center

“Julie possesses a keen understanding of the development process and the intricacies of major gifts work. She has helped secure the future of AJC by cultivating both donors and future leaders for the agency.”

Harold Tanner, Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and an AJC Honorary President

This is a most auspicious moment in time to strengthen relations in this country between Latinos and Jews, and, as a corollary, to strengthen relations between the U.S. and the rest of the hemisphere. And these twin goals are the focus of our institute. With Latinos now officially recognized as the largest minority in the country and their power in every sphere continuously growing, we cannot afford any longer to remain as spectators or just partially engaged in this relationship. In addition, the unfortunate instability in many areas of Latin America has resulted in an increased flow of Latin American Jews to this country. These Latino Jews, such as myself, are a critical asset at this juncture because of their potential ability to act as bridges and interpreters between both communities.

Dina Siegel Vann

Director, Latino and Latin American Institute

siegelvannd@ajc.org

previous posts

Director of Latin American and United Nations Affairs—B'nai B'rith International

Executive Director of Tribuna Israelita (political affairs agency of the Mexican Jewish community)

education

B.A., Tel Aviv University, magna cum laude

M.A., Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University

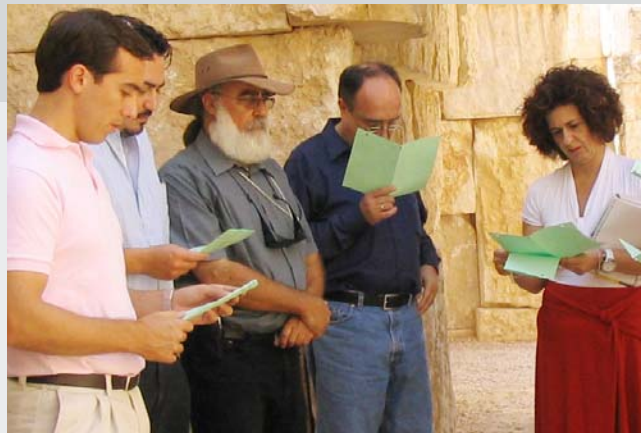
awards and distinctions

Distinguished Friend of Central America—Central American Coalition of Nevada

books or publications

Contributed entry on Mexico, to *American Jewish Year Book* 2003, 2004

Articles in the *Forward Forum*: “America’s Hemisphere,” “Iran’s Presence in Latin America”



Dina Siegel Vann leads a remembrance service at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem during an AJC Project Interchange mission to Israel for Latino media leaders.

“Dina Siegel Vann is a visionary who has leveraged her talent for leadership to build synergies between the Latino community and the Jewish community in America. Dina has laid down seeds in the ‘soil of unity’ that have blossomed into a fruitful collaboration that will last for many generations to come. ”

Cid Wilson, president, Dominican American National Roundtable

As head of AJC's Domestic Policy Department, I am committed to ensuring that the United States remains a vibrant and pluralistic democracy and a hospitable environment for Jews and other minorities. In keeping with Hillel's directive that you should not separate yourself from the community, I believe that it is vitally important for AJC to advance policies and initiatives that will strengthen American democracy and pluralism, promote social justice, and combat bigotry and anti-Semitism. Our work is accomplished through the Domestic Policy Commission and its standing committees and ad hoc task forces. Through advocacy, public education and research efforts, amicus briefs filed in the courts, and outreach to coalitional partners, I strive to ensure that we remain committed as an organization to the advancement of the "American" component of the American Jewish Committee.

Jeffrey Sinensky

Director of Domestic Policy and General Counsel
sinenskyj@ajc.org

Jeffrey Sinensky (c.) with
Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and
AJC associate executive director Shula Bahat.



previous posts

Legal Affairs and Civil Rights Director, Anti-Defamation League
Senior Member of the Appeals Bureau and Deputy Chief of the Indictment Bureau, Bronx County District Attorney's Office

education

B.A., Brooklyn College, cum laude
J.D., St. John's University School of Law, Honors

awards and distinctions

Admitted to the New York State Bar, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court

books or publications

Supervised the preparation of more than 200 amicus curiae briefs submitted to state and federal courts.
Co-authored and supervised the preparation of booklets including *Separation of Church and State: Protecting Religious Liberty in America Today*; *Religion in the Public Schools: A Primer for Students, Parents, Teachers, and School Administrators*; and the annual *AJC in the Courts: Litigation Report*.

“The American Jewish Committee and the entire American Jewish community are blessed to have Jeff Sinensky as a member of what might be called our ‘communal legal team.’ Jeff brings a rare combination of meticulousness and passion to his work, helping lay people and experts alike understand the most complex and important issues of our day.”

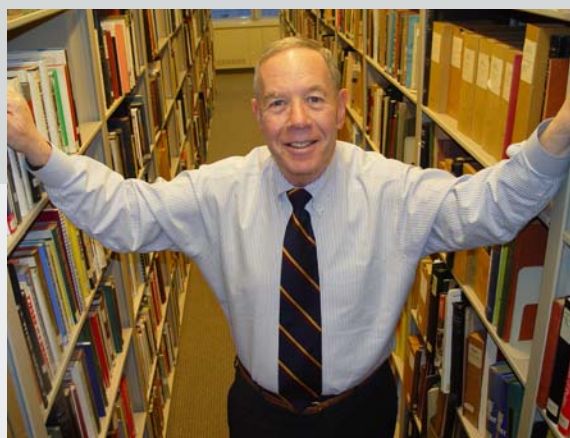
Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

As AJC's Director of Research, I function as a middleman between academia and the organized Jewish community. My aim is to provide American Jews with clear and accurate information about trends and developments shaping Jewish life in the here and now. Without solid knowledge, there can be no intelligent policy planning—it is as simple as that.

Dr. David Singer

Director, Research Department
and Editor, *American Jewish Year Book*

singerd@ajc.org



David Singer stands between stacks of books in AJC's Blaustein Library of Jewish public affairs.

previous posts

Assistant Professor,
Chicago State College
Program Specialist,
American Jewish Committee

education

A.B., Yeshiva University
Ph.D., Brown University,
in History

books or publications

"The Jewish Identity Crack-Up," *Past and Present*, June 1998

(Review) "Jews," *Commentary*, July 1998

(Symposium) "The Future of American Orthodoxy," *Jewish Action*, Fall 1998

(Review) "Kaddish," *New Leader*, December 14, 1998

(Review) "Rethinking Modern Judaism," *Commentary*, March 1999

(Review) "The Jewish Search for a Usable Past," *Commentary*, October 1999

"Learning from the Orthodox," in Elliot Abrams and David Dalin, eds., *Secularism, Spirituality, and the Future of American Jewry* (Washington, 1999)

(Review) "Beyond Reasonable Doubt," *Commentary*, April 2000

(Review) "Jew vs. Jew," *New Leader*, September–October 2000

"Rabbi Weinberg's Agony," *First Things*, June–July 2001

(Review) "The Ethics of Memory," *New Leader*, November–December 2002

"The Rebbe, the Messiah, and the Heresy Hunter," *First Things*, May 2003

"For Torah and Culture," *First Things*, May 2005

"Debating Modern Orthodoxy at Yeshiva College," *Modern Judaism*, May 2006

"Remembering Milton Himmelfarb," *American Jewish Year Book*, 2006

"I've always found AJC's research to be thoroughly reliable and authoritative, and I readily turn to it whenever it's relevant to my work."

Dr. Alan Mittleman, professor of Jewish philosophy
and director of the Louis Finkelstein Institute for Religious and Social Studies, Jewish Theological Seminary

In a nation of ever increasing religious, ethnic and racial diversity, I take great pride in AJC's vigorous defense of the constitutional principles that serve to protect the religious liberty and civil rights of all Americans. Whether by filing amicus briefs in Supreme Court cases or shepherding the development of agency positions on pressing issues like immigration reform and affirmative action, the Domestic Policy department is concerned with promoting policies that ensure the vitality of our pluralistic democracy, which benefits us as Jews, as Americans, and as citizens of a global community.

Kara Stein

Associate Director of Domestic Policy and Legal Affairs
steink@ajc.org



At an AJC conference, Kara Stein with Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer.

previous posts

Associate, Fleming, Zulack, Williamson, Zauderer LLP

education

B.A., Johns Hopkins University

J.D., New York University School of Law

M.P.A., Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government

awards and distinctions

Nahum Goldmann Fellow

Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society

Staff Editor, NYU Review of Law and Social Change

Admitted to the United States Supreme Court, the New York and New Jersey State Bars, and the Second, Third and Fourth Circuit United States Courts of Appeals

books or publications

Co-authored article in *Education Update*, "The Debate over English Language Acquisition," November 2002.

Assisted in the preparation of numerous amicus briefs submitted to state and federal courts.

Co-author of *Religion in the Public Schools: A Primer for Students, Parents, Teachers and School Administrators*, and the annual *AJC in the Courts: Litigation Report*.

“Kara is an extremely talented lawyer with an impressive ability to work with coalition partners from different perspectives. She’s a passionate advocate for religious freedom in the best tradition of the American Jewish Committee.”

K. Hollyn Hollman, General Counsel, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty

previous posts

Managing Partner, Rose & Stern, Attorneys at Law

Director, National Organization Against Terrorism

education

B.A., Bard College

J.D., Willamette University

awards and distinctions

Argued before United States Supreme Court (*United States v. Loud Hawk*, 1985)

Gustavus Myer Center Award for outstanding work on intolerance in North America (for *Loud Hawk*, 1996)

Nominated for National Book Award (for *A Force Upon the Plain*) 1996

Invited Presenter, White House Conference on Hate Crimes (1997)

Distinguished Service Award (Center on Hate and Extremism of Richard Stockton College)

Distinguished Achievement Award (Poly Prep, 2001)

John Dewey Award for Distinguished Public Service (Bard College, 2001)

Member, U.S. Delegation to Stockholm International Forum on Combating Intolerance

books or publications

Holocaust Denial (1993)

Loud Hawk: The United States vs. The American Indian Movement (1994)

A Force Upon the Plain: The American Militia Movement and the Politics of Hate (1996)

Antisemitism Today: How It Is the Same, How It Is Different, and How to Fight It (2006)

Contributor, *Encyclopedia Judaica*, second edition (2006)

Throughout history people have hated—regardless of when or where or any other variable, they have identified, demonized and dehumanized an “other.” Hatred has been responsible for more suffering than any other malady, and anti-Semitism is one of its most virulent and resilient varieties. AJC’s work will not end anti-Semitism or hatred, but it is instrumental in helping leaders and institutions better understand what must be done to combat and curtail them. As the world is becoming more dangerous, we must combat these scourges in smarter ways. I can think of no more rewarding work than helping define these steps, and no organization with more credibility and thoughtfulness to apply to the task than the American Jewish Committee.

Kenneth S. Stern

Specialist, Anti-Semitism and Extremism

sternk@ajc.org

Ken Stern stands in his office before a framed copy of the front page of the *Independent* on the day it announced the victory in an English court of historian Deborah Lipstadt over Holocaust denier David Irving. Ken served as a key advisor to Lipstadt.



“AJC stands strong as an immensely sophisticated and formidable enemy of hatemongers everywhere.”

Emory University professor Deborah Lipstadt

I love AJC's mission, especially the role we play as a determined advocate for Jewish communities around the world. I also like the people here, both lay and staff. There's a feeling of collegiality at AJC at all levels that I think is unusual, and it helps to get the job done. I work as part of team of lay and staff leaders on the job of ensuring that the contributions this agency receives are used in ways that advance AJC's agenda. It's gratifying to know that the leading watchdog agencies that monitor nonprofits have given AJC their highest ratings. We view the contributions we receive as nothing less than a sacred trust, and we definitely strive to put every dollar to the best possible use.

Clifford B. Surloff

Chief Financial Officer

surloffc@ajc.org



Cliff Surloff amid the greenery in his AJC office.

previous posts

Director of Finance,
American Friends of the
Hebrew University

Adjunct Professor,
Undergraduate Accounting,
Fairleigh Dickinson
University

Adjunct Professor, Budgeting,
Baruch College Graduate
School of Business

education

B.B.A., University of Pitts-
burgh, Member, National
Accounting Honorary Society

M.B.A., University of Pitts-
burgh

“You can call Cliff Surloff the institutional financial memory of the American Jewish Committee. His knowledge and understanding of the agency, combined with his financial skills, have brought him to the point where he frequently anticipates financial needs and possibilities long before anybody else.”

Harris L. (Shrub) Kempner, Jr., President, Kempner Capital Management, and AJC Treasurer/Secretary

education

Master's in English Literature,
Loreto House, West Bengal,
India

awards and distinctions

Board member, U.S.-India Institute, focused on foreign policy priorities of the two administrations, the global war on terror and the vision for the future in terms of cooperation between India and U.S. on security issues

Cochairperson, Media and Entertainment Committee, Governor Schwarzenegger's delegation to India, scheduled fall 2007

Member, USINPAC, U.S. India Political Action Committee

Member of TIE, The Indus Entrepreneurs' organization, Silicon Valley

Founder and board member, Indus Setu Global Foundation, Vishwa Sanskriti and Natak Expression

Recipient of the Bharat Nirman Award for excellence in community work in Mumbai, India

Speaker at AJC's Annual Conference in Washington on the humanitarian role played by AJC in funding the tsunami projects in India and Sri Lanka (2005)

Panelist for President Mikhail Gorbachev's Foundation, State of the World Forum

Panelist for the State of the World Forum Millennium Conference, New York, 2000

Panelist for the State of the World Forum Annual Conference, San Francisco, 1999

Chair, Media and International Affairs, Interfaith Harmony Foundation, SAARC Enclave, India

I am passionate about proactively safeguarding human rights of minorities, including Jewish communities, celebrating diversity, nurturing peace and tolerance, empowering women and children, and fostering alliance between Israel, India, and the USA. I see my role as effectively advocating Jewish causes in the Indian subcontinent by fostering strong ties between AJC and key Indian policy makers, leveraging my deep connections with the influential global Indian Diaspora, and enhancing ties in the Asia Pacific Rim. I see humanitarian causes such as AJC's construction of a vocational center in Chennai as a low-key yet highly effective way of concretizing AJC's lofty dreams of not leaving anyone behind.

Priya Tandon

India Representative,
Asia and Pacific Rim Institute

tandonp@ajc.org



Priya Tandon with Israel's first lady, Aliza Olmert.

“It can be said of Priya Tandon that she is a woman who represents the Jewish community in India with total dedication and sincerity. ”

Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, introducing Priya to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon at a banquet in his honor during the first-ever visit of an Israeli prime minister to India

The strength of the American Jewish community, and most particularly the American Jewish Committee, rests not in our numbers but in the ideals, ideas, and leadership we have demonstrated as part of what I consider to be the “miracle of America.” I have had the opportunity to spend over twenty-five years as a serious participant and leader in this endeavor. I have devoted much of my work to building and nurturing leadership—professional and lay leaders who continue to add to the fabric of our Jewish community and the community as a whole. Serving as a mentor and guide to talented AJC men and women who are building upon what so many have achieved is an extremely rewarding experience.

Ann Tourk

Senior Advisor for Community Development

tourka@ajc.org



Ann Tourk in her AJC office.

previous posts

Area Director,
Westchester Chapter,
American Jewish Committee

Director, Community Service
Division, Anti-Defamation
League

education

B.A., Brooklyn College

“One of the best things about AJC is the high value it puts on the lay-staff partnership. At its best there is no hyphen between lay and staff and that is exactly what my partnership with Ann has been. She is a generous and talented professional who does her job extremely well.”

Jane Silverman, President, Jane Silverman and Associates, LLC, and AJC Chair of Organizational Development

Ensuring that leaders in America and around the world have greater knowledge about Israel is one of AJC's most compelling objectives. Through Project Interchange, AJC marries this continual need with a powerful solution. Our ability to introduce individuals from diverse areas of influence to Israel is crucial to their understanding. These leaders return to provide analysis, make policy, write articles, engage in business, offer sermons, and form opinion locally, nationally, and globally. I am honored to be part of this important initiative which boasts tangible results with regard to understanding and engaging with Israel, informing bilateral relations, and creating global dialogue. Moreover, the professional and personal relationships which deepen as these leaders ascend in their influence are lasting signs of the impact of Project Interchange.

Laurie Wexler

Executive Director, Project Interchange
wexlerl@projectinterchange.org

previous posts

Director, Association for Safe International Road Travel
Founder, Holocaust Education Project at the Florida Atlantic University
Founder, Florida Friends of Tel Hashomer
Coordinator of Missions to Israel, South Palm Beach County Jewish Federation

education

B.A., University of Texas at Austin
M.A., Brandeis University, Jewish Communal Service

Laurie Wexler in Jerusalem with a group of Project Interchange participants.



“I express my sincere gratitude for the phenomenal experience provided by the Project Interchange seminar in Israel. As I move forward with the work of the Legal Defense Fund, I am aware of how much common regard for human rights issues across the globe we share with Project Interchange and AJC.”

Theodore M. Shaw, Director-Counsel and President, NAACP Legal and Educational Fund, Inc.,
Civic and Policy Leaders Seminar, November 2005



American Jewish Committee

The Jacob Blaustein Building

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New York, NY 10022

The American Jewish Committee publishes in these areas:

- Hatred and Anti-Semitism •Pluralism •Israel •Human Rights*
- American Jewish Life •International Relations •Law and Public Policy*

www.ajc.org

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