

„Secularity: Opportunity or Peril for Religions, The French Experience and Global Perspectives“

Conference Program

2013 International Conference of the

International Council of Christians and Jews

In cooperation with

IECJ – Interuniversity Institute of Jewish Studies & Culture

Aix-en-Provence, France

June 30 – July 3, 2013

WELCOME

Dear conference participants,

On behalf of the ICCJ, I'd like to say "soyez les bienvenus"—welcome—to Aix –en-Provence for our 2013 conference. It's a bit strange for me to be welcoming you to a place I personally have never yet visited. I have been in Paris many times and have family connections to France and the French language, but this is my first time in Provence.

Our venue was chosen to mark 50 years since the death, in Aix – en – Provence, of Jules Isaac, a Jewish French historian and pioneer of Jewish-Christian dialogue. Isaac coined the famous phrase, "enseignement du mépris," "the teaching of contempt," to characterize the history of Christian anti-Judaism and antisemitism. He was one of the leading participants in the Seelisberg meeting in 1947, during which the Ten Seelisberg Principles were issued and one can say that the ICCJ was born (or, at least, conceived.)

Our conference theme focuses on laïcité, a French concept best translated as secularity. We will ask if this is an opportunity or a danger for religions. I have much to say on the subject but I will have several chances to do so during the conference. Let me just take this opportunity to say "merci beaucoup" to the chair of the conference, Liliane Apotheker; to the dedicated committee, including Rosine Voisin, Edouard Robberechts and Bruno Charmet; to our French member organization, the Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France (AJCF) and its President, Revd. Florence Taubmann; and to the ICCJ staff from Heppenheim, esp. Revd. Dick Pruiksma, Ute Knorr and Petra Grünewald-Stangl. It has been a pleasure working with all of them. I wish us all a stimulating and productive conference.

Debbie Weissman, Jerusalem
President, ICCJ

Welcome to all participants!

Dear Friends,

It gives us great joy to welcome you in Aix-en-Provence for the annual ICCJ conference.

The French member organisation, Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France, is honoured by your visit, which required a very long journey for some of you.

Our local groups of Aix and Marseille were particularly involved in the preparation of our meeting, but all our groups extend a warm welcome to you. They are joined in this by our steering committee whose headquarters are in Paris.

The occasion of this meeting is very emotional for all those involved in dialogue and friendship between Jews and Christians. Indeed, the year 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the passing of a man whose life was shattered by Nazism, yet he remained dedicated to education as an historian and to the reconciliation between Jews and Christians: Jules Isaac. So, for a few days we will be here, remembering him in this beautiful city that he called home.

We will also have the opportunity of visiting one of the only deportation and internment camps that remained intact in France: the « Camp des Milles »

Faithful to his call for mutual respect, we will reflect together through roundtables, plenaries and workshops on secularity, on the place of God in the world and in societal issues.

In our very secular France, highly suspicious of religion in general, this question is extremely significant and cannot be understood in the same way as in the Anglo-Saxon world, where religious tolerance has a longer history. Thus the confrontation of our own experiences, marked by different contexts - French, German, Latin, Eastern European, Anglo American, South American, Israeli - will not fail to present an enriching experience for us all and for ICCJ.

Rev. Florence Taubmann,
President of AJCF

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We also want to thank the many members and branches of the Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France for their generous support.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France

AJCF Aix-en-Provence and Marseille

in cooperation with

IECJ, Interuniversity Institute of Jewish Studies & Culture

International Conference

from June 30 – July 3, 2013 in Aix-en-Provence

***Secularity: Opportunity or Peril for Religions,
The French Experience and Global
Perspectives***

PROGRAM

Program - Sunday, June 30, 2013

16.00 Registration at « Hôtel Campanile »

18.00 Transfer to « La Baume »

18.30 Opening of the conference

- Address by Dr Deborah Weissman, ICCJ President

- Address by Liliane Apotheker, chair conference committee

- Introduction to the life and work of Jules Isaac by Dr Edouard Robberechts

19.30 Opening dinner

21.00 Transfer to « Hôtel Campanile »

Program - Monday, July 1, 2013

06.00-08.15 Breakfast

07.00-07.45 Jewish morning prayer

07.00-07.45 Christian morning prayer

08.30 Transfer to « La Baume » and day registration

During the plenary sessions 150 headphones are available for the simultaneous French/English translation only on presentation of ID card or passport.

09.00 Plenary session

moderated by Rev. Florence Taubmann

09.00 Meditative moment

Sr. Dominique de la Maisonneuve, NDS

Sr. Marie Niesz, NDS

09.15 Keynote speaker 1 - Bishop Claude Dagens:

Faith in God and democracy

Keynote speaker 2 - Rabbi Haïm Korsia:

Secularity and religious practices

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Plenary discussion

11.45 Lunch

13.15 Workshops: Session A

Workshop A1 (French)

Dr. Edouard Robberechts

'Jules Isaac : un historien laïc'.

Moderator: Dr. Danielle Delmaire

Workshop A2 (French)

Fr. Jean Gueit

'La perception de la laïcité par l' orthodoxie'.

Moderator: Sandrine Caneri.

Workshop A3 (English)
Rev. Canon Hosam Naoum
'The Christian Presence in the Holy Land'.
Moderator : Dr. Abi Pitum

Workshop A4 (English and French)
Dr. Olivier Rota
'Edmond Fleg and Jules Isaac: two different contributions to
inter-religious dialogue'
Moderator: Dr. Murray Watson

Workshop A5 (English)
Dr. Peter A. Pettit
'New Paths: Reframing Israel's narrative in North American
Christian communities'
Moderator: Rev. Dr. Michael Trainor

Workshop A6 (French)
An informal meeting with Sheikh Ghassan Manasra from
Nazareth
Moderator : Liliane Apotheker

15.00 Transfer to « Camp des Milles »

15.30 Visit « Camp des Milles »

17.00 Plenary session
moderated by Liliane Apotheker
- Welcome and lecture by Alain Chouraqui
- Lecture by Father Patrick Desbois:
'Genocides and Modernity'
- Plenary discussion

18.30 Transfer to « La Baume »

19.00 Dinner at « La Baume »

20.30 Klezmer and Psalms by Rose Bacot

21.30 Transfer to « Hôtel Campanile »

Program - Tuesday, July 2, 2013

06.00-08.15 Breakfast

07.00-07.45 Jewish morning prayer

07.00-07.45 Christian morning prayer

08.30 Transfer to « La Baume » and day registration

09.00 Plenary session

moderated by Rev. David Gifford

09.00 Meditative moment

Liliane Apotheker

09.15 Keynote speaker: Rev. Dr. Gilles Bourquin

Can Modernity survive without religion?

10.00 Response: Dr. Deborah Weissman

10.15 Plenary discussion

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 Workshops: Session B

Workshop B1 (English)

Dr. Markus Himmelbauer

'Hungary's Depressingly Familiar Anti-Semitism'.

Moderator: Dr. Stanislaw Krajewski

Workshop B2 (English)

Sheikh Ghassan Manasra

'A Sufi Muslim Palestinian Israeli'

Moderator: Wendy Fidler.

Workshop B3 (English)

Rev. Friedhelm Pieper

'Male Circumcision in Contradiction to Human Rights?'

Moderator: William Szekely

Workshop B4 (French)

Dr. Liliane Vana and Dr. Blandine Chelini-Pont.

'Droits des femmes'

Moderator: Nadine Iarchy-Zucker

Workshop B5 (English)

ICCJ Young Leadership Council

A "Natural" Alternative to Secularity?

Workshop B6 (French)

An informal meeting with Dr. Raymond Cohen from
Jerusalem

Moderator : Rosine Voisin

12.30 Lunch

14.00 **Commemorating Ruth Weyl**

Addresses by

- Dr. Deborah Weissman

- Dr. Abi Pitum

- Dr. Eva Schulz-Jander

14.30 **Annual General Meeting of the
Friends and Sponsors of the Martin Buber House**

15.30 Transfer to Aix en Provence

16.00 Visits to Aix-en-Provence

18.00 Cocktail reception by the city of Aix in the "Pavillon
Vendôme" Gardens

Free time and dinner in Aix-en-Provence. No transfers by bus.

Program - Wednesday, July 3, 2013

06.00-08.15 Breakfast

07.00-07.45 Jewish morning prayer

07.00-07.45 Christian morning prayer

08.30 Transfer to « La Baume » and day registration

09.00 Plenary session

moderated by Prof. Jean Duhaime

09.00 Meditative moment

Young Leadership Council

09.15 Roundtable: Freedom of expression and blasphemy

- Prof. Dominique Avon

- Dr Mustafa Baig

- Prof. Liliane Vana

10.15 Plenary discussion

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 Workshops: Session C

Workshop C1 (French and English)

Dr. Edouard Robberechts and Francesca Frazer

'Religion and education in secular and religious schools'.

Moderator: Dr. Donizeti Ribeiro

Workshop C2 (French)

Rev. Florence Taubmann

'Controverse autour de la circoncision'

Moderator: Rev. Alain Massini

Workshop C3 (English)

Dr. Raymond Cohen

'Is Israel a secular state?'

Moderator: Rev. Dick Pruiksma

Workshop C4 (English)

Rabbi Ehud Bandel and Rev. Dr Michael Trainor

Bible study

"Promise, Land, Hope" - Engaging Genesis 12:1-3'.

Workshop C5 (English)

ICCJ Young Leadership Council

'Faith and Identity in a secular world'.

Workshop C6 (French)

An informal meeting with Rev. Canon Hosam Naoum from Jerusalem

Moderator: Fr. Jean Massonnet

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Plenary session

moderated by Rev. Dr. Hans Ucko

Presentation of the project 'Promise, Land, Hope'.

- Dr. Raymond Cohen

- Dr. Peter Pettit

15.30 Coffee break

16.00 Wrap up session

moderated by Liliane Apotheker

-Francesca Frazer

- Dr. Olivier Rota

- Discussion and conclusions

17.00 Transfer to « Hôtel Campanile »

18.30 Transfer to dinner

19.00 Festive dinner at « La Bastide »

22.00 Transfer to « Hôtel Campanile »

Rose Bacot



Monday July 1, 8.30 p.m.: Hallel
(Psalms 113 to 118)

As a Christian and as a musician, Rose Bacot felt a calling to put her clarinet at the service of the Word of God, in particular aiming to achieve a better understanding of the Jewish roots of the Christian Faith. She recites the Psalms in French and in Hebrew and « weaves » them into Klezmer music. This repertoire constitutes a language by itself that tells of the Jewish soul and these two forms of expression, verbal and musical, complement and enlighten each other.

Site Internet de Rose Bacot : La clarinette conte...
www.laclarinetteconte.com

Visit in Aix en Provence, Tuesday afternoon

This visit will be a guided walking tour in the old city of Aix en Provence. Language groups will be composed at the start of the tour. All groups meet at 18.00 hrs at the Jardin Vendôme for a reception, offered by the City Council of Aix en Provence. After the reception the conference delegates have a free evening in Aix. There will be no bus transportation back to the Campanile hotel or La Baume.

ICCJ Annual General Meeting

The 2013 Annual General Meeting of the International Council of Christians and Jews will take place on Thursday July 4, 08.30 hrs at the Campanile Hotel, Aix-en-Provence. For those who registered for this meeting, a lunch will be served.

The 2013 Aix-en-Provence Planning committee

Liliane Apotheker

France, Chair of the Committee, Executive Board Member of ICCJ.

Dick Pruiksm

Netherlands, ICCJ General Secretary

Edouard Robberechts

France, Interuniversity Institute of Jewish Studies & Culture

Florence Taubmann

France, President of Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France

Rosine Voisin

France, Board member Amitié Judéo-Chrétienne de France

Deborah Weissman

Israel, ICCJ President

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Ms. Petra Grünewald-Stangl

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Dr. Karine Michel

Conference Coordinator

Danièle Martin

Translation

Danielle Vergnolle

Translation

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The German Federal Ministry of the Interior

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