

Press Conference with United Nations Correspondents Association for the Event featuring Bernard Henri Levy and other presenters.

Wednesday, December 16th, 1.15 pm. At UNCA offices in UN.

Jewish Committee and the Holy See to host Nostra Aetate commemoration at UN

The International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) and the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations will host a commemoration of Nostra Aetate on December 16 at 3:00-5:00 P.M. at the United Nations Headquarters in the chamber of the Economic and Social Council.

Nostra Aetate is the declaration of the Second Vatican Council on the Catholic Church's relation to non-Christian religions. Promulgated on October 28, 1965, Nostra Aetate effectively countered centuries of anti-Jewish attitudes and understandings within the Church and inaugurated a new era of Jewish-Catholic relations. It also opened the Church to relations with Hindus, Buddhist, Muslims and others.

Keynote speakers will include Archbishop Bernadito Auza, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, philosopher Bernard Henry Levy, Bishop William Murphy of Rockville Center, and Brian Corbin, a Senior Vice President at Catholic Charities USA. Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the United Kingdom, will offer a special message.

Martin L, Budd, chair of IJCIC, said "in the last 50 years, the relationship between the Church and the Jewish people has transformed, as Pope Francis has said, from 'enemies and strangers' to 'friends and brothers.' This is certainly significant for Jews and Catholics, but is also a model of the potential for interreligious dialogue to resolve and overcome ancient and seemingly intractable hatred."

Philosopher Bernard Henri Lévy, author of the forthcoming "The Spirit of Judaism" (Random House, 2016), said, "This is one of the most powerful and spectacular revolutions that happened in the 20th century. This transformation of friction into friendship and true alliance completely reshaped the face of the world. What happened exactly? A word, just one single and tiny word. The Christians used to say, for centuries, that Jews were their 'fathers' in faith — and fathers, as everybody knows, are due to die and to transmit their inheritance to their sons. Suddenly, with Nostra Aetate, Christians began to say that Jews were their 'brothers' — and, between brothers, the relationship can be of equality and mutual respect."

Event Co-chair, Michael Landau, said 'Jewish Catholic relations in New York and around the world have flourished based on the shared values on education and the family. We hope that this unique gathering will give further impetus to more interfaith cooperation in this era of radical extremism.'

IJCIC is a coalition of the American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith International, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Israel Jewish Council for Interreligious Relations, Orthodox Union, Rabbinical Assembly, Rabbinical Council of America, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Union for Reform Judaism, and the World Jewish Congress.

The Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations is the official representative of the Catholic Church at the United Nations.

Attendance at the conference is free, but those without UN identification must pre-register on the website www.ijcic.org in order to obtain an event pass to enter the UN. For more information, contact : IJCIC Board Member, Rabbi Joshua Stanton: jstanton@tbj.org.



You Are Cordially Invited To A Side-Event Entitled

“Nostra Aetate: Accomplishment and the Next 50 Years”

Catholic-Jewish Relations as a Paradigm for Dialogue, Cooperation and the Pursuit of Peace



International Jewish Committee
for Interreligious Consultations

Wednesday, December 16, 3-5 pm
ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters

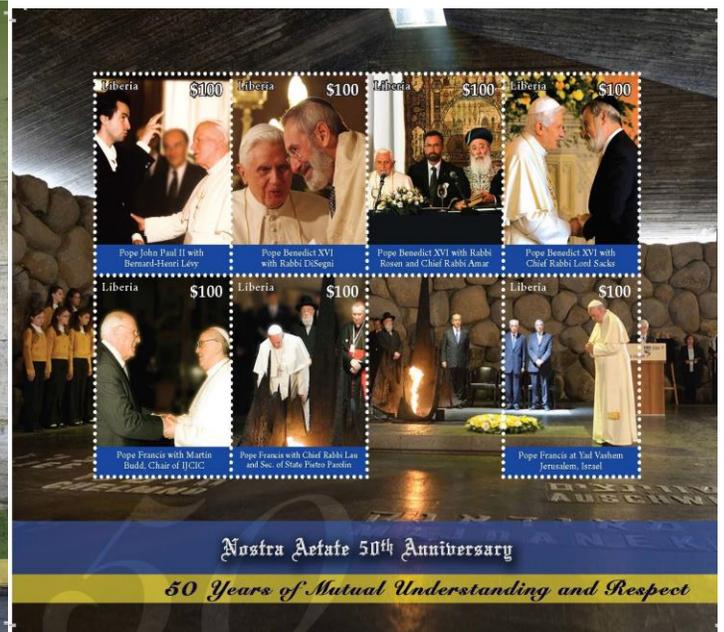
Speakers to Include



- Archbishop Bernardito Auza, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN (moderator)
- Bernard Henri Lévy, French Author and Intellectual
- Bishop William Murphy, Bishop of Rockville Center
- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, Author, Professor, Former Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth
- Brian Corbin, Senior VP for Social Policy, Catholic Charities, USA



There will be a special Commemorative Stamp launched in honor of the 50th Anniversary.



For Media Accreditation to be able to go to the Press Conference and cover the Event, please follow the instructions below. Please also copy michael@ctiglobal.nyc or email him so the application can get priority processing.

(<http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/request.shtml>)

Please provide a letter requesting U.N. accreditation of media personnel on official letterhead of a media organization, signed by the Publisher, Editor-in-chief, or Assignment Editor (along with their contact information). It should be recent, include the duration of the assignment, and addressed to the Media Accreditation Unit. Send it either via fax (212-963-4642) or via email in PDF format, to malu@un.org.

First time applicants must also create an **online account**: <http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/form/>