



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

EUROPEAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

THE CENTRE

The European Jewish Community Centre, located at the heart of the European Quarter in Brussels, is a focal point for Jewish events, services and resources at the European Union. The EJCC is a people oriented, community-driven organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of Jewish life through educational and cultural events. The centre is multi-lingual, serving the needs of government officials, diplomats, journalists and consultants to the EU.

OUR MISSION

To **promote Jewish culture** in the European Union and its institutions, by creating a dynamic centre for anyone interested in Jewish Culture, nourishing a community in all its diversity.

To **strengthen Jewish identity**, nurturing a meaningful Jewish life with an eye on progress, and consistent with today's world.

To **create bridges between communities** by bringing together people of different cultures and create dialogue.





**EU
AFFAIRS**
P. 2



**JEWISH
LIFE**
P. 4



EDUCATION
P. 6



CULTURE
P. 10



**DIALOGUE &
DIVERSITY**
P. 12



EU AFFAIRS

The EJCC aims to raise awareness of Jewish culture in the European Institutions. Through diverse events, seminars and meetings in the premises of the EU institutions, officials and civil servants can discover the wealth of Judaism, as a comprehensive and inclusive role player in European culture, and the universality of its values. Throughout the years, High ranking personalities and decision makers have been attending and supported EJCC projects and events.

EVENTS

EP Conference: International Women's Day

EP Conference – Religious Rituals and Fundamental Rights

Jewish New Years Celebration at EP

Film Screening EP – Latifa

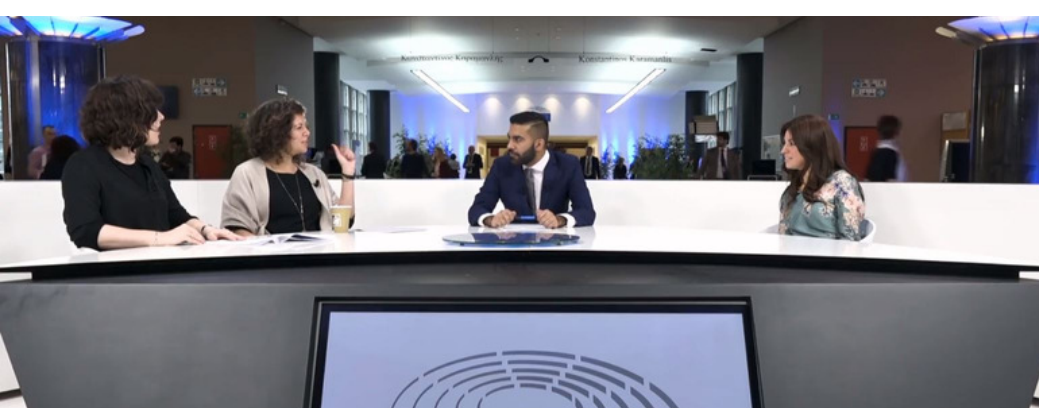
EuroChanukah at the European Commission 2018

EPP Intercultural Dialogue Group

6
EVENTS

870
PARTICIPANTS







JEWISH LIFE

The best way to enrich your life with true meaning and make new friends is by joining our exciting Jewish life events. EJCC facilitates networking among its members through social gatherings around the cycle of Jewish life linked to our holiday celebrations. Every occasion is an inspiring celebration!

EVENTS

Purim Stand Up

Pesach Seder 1 & 2

Yom Hazikaron

Jewish Museum–New Years Celebration

Lechayim Cocktail & Art Exhibition

Rosh Hashanah Dinner

Yom Kippur – Break the Fast

Sukkot celebrations

Dance With The Torah

Mega Challah Bake

Eurochanukah on R.P. Schuman

ChanukahLand

Hanouka au Musee Juif

4

14 EVENTS

2450 PARTICIPANTS







EDUCATION

We promote tolerance through education and understanding. What better way to a more peaceful world! We offer a template of mostly interesting learning courses on Judaism and Hebrew language, for children and adults alike. The following educational programmes are offered by the EJCC

PROGRAMMES

European Jewish Sunday School

Lunch & Learn

Women's Lunch Meet Up

EUIpan

Weekly Parasha class

Cteen

BatMitzva Club

Bar Mitzva Preparations

76
STUDENTS

241
LESSONS





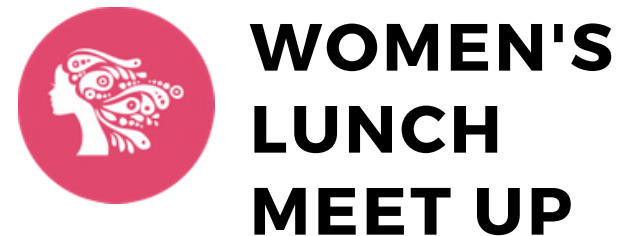
The only Hebrew learning course in the European Quarter. This programme consists of weekly lessons given by a professional language teacher to students from beginners and advanced level groups.

120 **17**
LESSONS **STUDENTS**



A weekly class on array of popular topics. Discover each week how the Torah portion can bring insight into our lives today, with knowledge from our great Jewish heritage and philosophers.

42 **8**
LESSONS **STUDENTS**



Is a once a month "ladies only" gathering at lunch time to chat and learn about the upcoming Jewish Holidays. In the menu: inspiring talk and a healthy lunch.

10 **12**
LESSONS **STUDENTS**

EUROPEAN JEWISH SUNDAY SCHOOL



This program consists of a class taking place every other Sunday from September to June for children from ages 3 to 11. Our goal is to provide the most positive and productive Hebrew School experience for Jewish children, regardless of prior knowledge and background, affiliations, or level of observance. We bring the joys, values and traditions of Judaism to life through art, song, dance, games, trips, cooking, baking, collaborative learning exercises, and extra-curricular activities. Our curriculum covers all areas of Hebrew language, Jewish culture, traditions, and history, in an environment of joy, warmth, and friendship.



18
LESSONS

18
STUDENTS

WEEKLY PARASHA CLASS



A weekly course for women on the weekly Torah portion. Our holistic approach to Jewish learning considers the impact of Jewish values on personal and interpersonal growth. Drawing on research-based, our innovative presentation of traditional Judaism is designed to be both intellectually rigorous and highly accessible.

25
LESSONS
6
STUDENTS



10
LESSONS

12
STUDENTS



CTEEN



Is an international monthly program for teenagers between 14 and 18 years old which provides a nurturing environment where teens can learn about themselves through giving to others, identify with individuals who share the same faith, and be part of a group that focuses on building positive core values. This way, teenagers can connect with their own Jewish roots while making new friends.

BAT MITZVAH CLUB



Is a program that prepares girls between 11 and 13 years old for their Bat Mitzva. This program consists of 16 gatherings in which we will cross the milestones on Jewish History while discovering important female figures in our history. We will also celebrate the Jewish holidays while focusing more extensively on Jewish thoughts and values with a first initiation to spirituality, duality between body and soul, and our personal relationship with G-d

16
LESSONS

3
STUDENTS





CULTURE

Culture is a predominant part of the promotion of tolerance and enhances communication and understanding between people of all creed. Explore the great joys of Jewish culture with our extensive programmes of cinema, concerts, art gallery visits, exhibitions, and book signings..

EVENTS

Ilran / Israel Escalations – Conference

Book signing Jimmy Jamar

Shavuot Art Expo, Brunch & Talk

Jewish Museum of Belgium Iftar

Conversation with Dr Leah Goldin

Coalition Building for Tolerance and Non-Discrimination: A Practical Guide

Sukkot talk: Is Humanitarian Aid preventing or feeding misery?

7
EVENTS

730
PARTICIPANTS







DIALOGUE & DIVERSITY

D&D is a Jewish initiative of intercultural dialogue.

On an educational level, D&D brings together Jews, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists and non-confessionals around one same project: to promote the understanding and acceptance of our differences in order to reduce stereotypes and prejudices and consolidate a more inclusive society.

On an institutional level, D&D raises public awareness on the importance of respect and exchange between religious and cultural communities and on the importance to celebrate our diversity.

EVENTS

Women in Dialogue - Break the ice

Women in Dialogue - Rites of passage

Youth in Dialogue - Shabbat Dinner with Jewish and Muslim Scout leaders

Buddhism & Judaism on Meditation

Run 4 Peace 20k

Visit of Cheikh Khaled Bentounes

Women in Dialogue - Fundamental rights

Run For Peace 5k

Women in Dialogue - Lets act together

Filmscreening at EP - Latifa Ibn Ziaten

Visit of Bahraini Delegation

Conference - Women in the fight against radicalisation

12
EVENTS

720
PARTICIPANTS





D&D PARTICIPATED AT

Roundtable Diversity & Inclusion
@Mission of Canada to the EU

Diwan Awards Ceremony

Play 4 Peace

Iftar Dinner with Association Mimouna

World Refugee Day - Conference at EP

ENAR General Assembly

Summer School Programme of CEC
(Conference of European Churches)

ENORB Conference: "Women's Rights,
Gender and Religion"

European Commission Roundtable
on Article 17





RESSOURCES

The EJCC made Jewish life more meaningful this past year by distributing a wide range of resources:

- 1000 Yearly Calendars which included all our programs, Jewish and Public holidays, as well as EU Plenary sessions.
- 300 Shmura Matzot- Handmade Matzot for Pesach
- 700 Chanukiot – Chanukah candelabras with candles
- 500 Mishloach Moanot – Purim packages
- 100 Share the Light kits with Shabbat candles

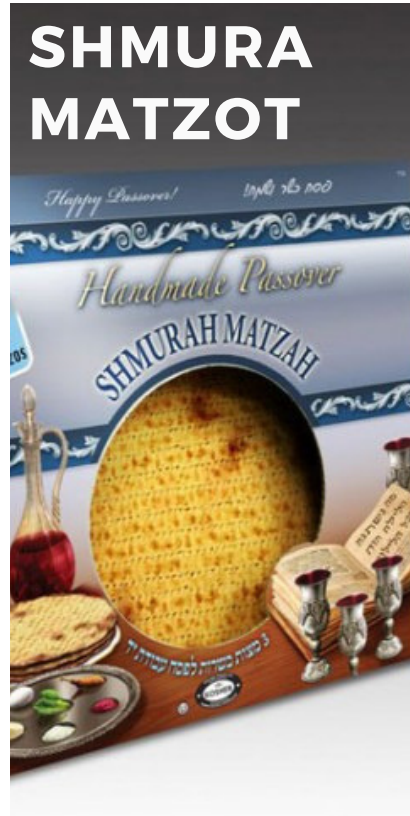
1000

300

500

700

100





40
TOTAL
EVENTS

4770
TOTAL
PARTICIPANTS

END NOTE

The European Jewish Community Centre is proud to have successfully completed its goals for 2018.

Indeed, we arranged over **40 events** including events in the European institutions.

In addition, the EJCC coordinated eight educational programmes which included a total of **241 lessons** which were given on a weekly or monthly basis.

4770 people participated in our events this past year, including 21 MEPs, representatives of foreign governments, heads of international organizations and 15 Ambassadors to the European Union and to Belgium.

We look forward to expanding our work in 2019 and anticipate your continued partnership for a better tomorrow for Jewish Communities and for the world.

EUROPEAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

events@ejcc.eu | www.ejcc.eu

109, Rue Froissart, 1040 Brussels