



Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel

משלחת האיחוד האירופי למדינת ישראל

وفد الاتحاد الأوروبي إلى دولة إسرائيل

15.12.15
9/15

Press release

European Commission and Israel to hold seminar on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Anti-Semitism

Bringing together a wide range of European and Israeli experts, the 9th joint European Commission – Israel Seminar on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Anti-Semitism will be held in Brussels on December 17.

The topics to be addressed in the various working sessions will include: the operative conclusions of Israel's 5th Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism and the European Commission's First Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights; the security of Jewish communities in Europe, de-radicalization policies and EU hate crimes legislation and how to address on-line anti-Semitism in social media.

Among the speakers opening the seminar will be Věra Jourová, European Commissioner for Justice and Consumers; Ambassador Yuval Rotem, Senior Deputy Director General, Head of Public Diplomacy Directorate, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the EU Delegation to Israel.

The seminar comes shortly after the appointment of Katharina von Schnurbein as the European Commission's coordinator on combating anti-Semitism .

Speaking at a Chanukah ceremony at the European Commission on December 8, First Vice President Frans Timmermans said: "[...] I am deeply convinced that preventing and combating anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism is a matter for society as a whole. It must not be left to Jewish communities alone. It is the responsibility of politicians, mayors, state authorities, grass roots organisations, religious leaders, community representatives, the media, and every European individual. [...] Everyone in Europe must understand that the fundamental laws and core values at the heart of our society reject anti-Semitism. Like any other form of racism or xenophobia, it has absolutely no place in Europe. "

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