



LILIANE APOTHEKER

Country: FRANCE

Denomination: JEW

Nominated for ICCJ PRESIDENT

Curriculum Vitae

Born in Antwerp in 1955, raised in a traditional Jewish home, member of a Massorti community. Native speaker of French, fluent in 5 languages including Hebrew. Graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, English and French Literature. Contributor to “Sens”, the publication of the French member organization, AJCF. ICCJ First Vice President since 2014, board member since 2011.

How I would like to contribute to the work of the ICCJ

A decade has passed since my election to the ICCJ board in Krakow and if anything my commitment has only deepened.

This time I am running for President.

I have tried to clarify for myself why me and why now. After an extremely difficult year, we at ICCJ have to rethink fundamentally how we function and elaborate new models for the future. Obviously, this cannot be done by one person; it will be through the combined effort of the ICCJ board, our dedicated staff in Heppenheim and all of you.

I have always considered myself an international team player. I am fluent in five languages and because languages are a medium for cultures, I am at ease in multiple environments and feel that I inhabit many different cultures. Embracing our diversity is key to the success of ICCJ.

An Israeli song by Arik Einstein resonates in my mind often because it articulates one of my core beliefs:

“I and You, we can change the world, I and You and then the others will come. This has been said before, but that doesn’t matter, I and You, we can change the world.”

I believe in this equation and I promise to work hard and spare no effort. I believe that every single person involved in Jewish Christian dialogue can make change happen and that ICCJ with its numerous member organizations is a unique platform to achieve this.

What is my broader vision for the ICCJ in the next three years

Transitioning to new models:

Our virtual conference this year is an opportunity to reach a larger and more international audience by taking advantage of modern communication tools. We will carefully assess the results of this conference and learn from this experience for the coming years. We do not know what the future holds for us, but we are committed to finding the best ways to bring the ICCJ family together in the coming years and to ensure we grow in numbers.

Expanding the ICCJ Family:

We need to increase our outreach significantly through dialogue with new partners, deepening dialogue with our friends, expand our network, establish new member organizations and help existing member organizations to gain visibility by strengthening our ties with them.

Yet dialogue cannot just happen with people we are in agreement with, I believe it is necessary to reach out to others as well. The problems that the world faces will need all hands on board.

“No religion is an Island” is true not only in the world of Jewish Christian and interfaith dialogue. It is also pertinent in intra faith dialogue, and in our relationship with the secular world. Religions should be part of society, hence our voice must be heard beyond our usual constituency. It must be loud and clear and reflect our dedication to change the world whenever we can.

Fundraising is an important factor of success for us to achieve our goals.