

BismiLLAH-ir-RAHMAN-ir-RAHÎM

Thank you very much for this friendly invitation.

The Central Council of Muslims in Germany is very happy to be part of this important meeting between Muslimic and Jewish leaders in Europe.

Why ?

Why is this meeting important ?

Your agenda is full of work -

my agenda is full of work -

so what is the reason for travelling hundreds of miles only to meet the leaders of another religion ?

The reason is very easy:

On the one hand

there are still a lot of differences between the Jewish and Muslimic people.

There are still a lot of political problems between people with Jewish or Muslimic religion.

But on the other hand

we have **the same problems:**

The problems of Jewish and Muslimic people have become **bigger:**

The culture and the public media have become more and more **atheistic.**

There is a **strong trend** towards direct or indirect **atheism**

There is a **strong trend** towards a society with **less and less moralic rules.**

The results are

* loneliness,

* mental emptiness and

* drug problems

The criminalization of circumcision is a very serious example for our common current problems

This time, I am optimistic, that we can solve the problem of circumcision.

But what`s about the **next attack** against the Jewish or Islamic religion.

What`s about the **next** attack against Jewish AND Muslimic people.

So these are very important reasons to work together !

In many European countries radical right-wing parties have achieved two-digit results.

In Germany we don't have strong right-wing parties.

But of course we have an open and a hidden Anti-Semitism.

Of course we have an open and a hidden Anti-Islamism.

There are a lot of Germans with anti-Semitic settings.

There are a lot of migrants with anti-Semitic settings.

There are a lot of Germans with anti-Muslim settings.

And of course - there are a lot of Jewish people with anti-Muslim settings.

But there are although a lot of humans without or with less prejudices.

There are although a lot of humans who are not stupid.

Most of the Muslims in Germany are friendly and easy people.

Most of the Jewish in Germany are friendly and easy people.

Mr Ruby asked me, what's about the Muslim - Jewish relationship in Germany today.

The Islamic mosque communities are **pragmatically**.

They have personal relationships to Jewish people in their neighbourhood and to Rabbins.

The Central Council of Muslims in Germany and the Central Council of Jewish in Germany have a good relationship. We stand in contact constantly.

I am very happy, that we have a **new generation** of young and intelligent Leaders and players, who are not interested in old fashioned political or socially prejudices. These are very positive developments.

But please remember:

Bad people on both sides give new food for old prejudices over and over again.

Unfortunately the Jewish and Muslimic people in Germany can not influence murders, wars and meanness all over the world.

But we can try to make a **difference** between our neighbours and black sheeps.

We can try to make a **difference** between our neighbours and bad people playing a wrong play.

We have a lot of areas where a lot of important jobs have to be done !

It is not enough to defend ourselves.

We must show the positive elements of our religions.

This is the chance to win the unknown young people for us.

The cooperation between the Central Council of Muslims and the Central Council of Jewish in Germany is good - **but this is not enough !**

Perhaps it is difficult to develop the **official** cooperation.
The big players have to notice a lot of complicated political and diplomatic rules.
Therefore, the possibilities of an **official cooperation** are limited.

So we should find **new ways** for punctual cooperation units.

We should create some **special task forces with special aims**.

I will give you **an example** for a special task force between Jewish and Muslim humans in Germany:

A small Jewish and Islamic organization should organize **action days** for schools and institutes for the retraining of unemployed youth.

These action days should give a vividly and brightly view in the Jewish and the Islamic religion.

These action days should show the Jewish and Islamic culture.

And - very important - these action days should use the reputation of famous Jewish and Islamic humans.

There will be a big acceptance - because the cooperation of both affected religions is **new and unusual**.

With a modern and attractive design these action days will increase the numbers of friendly and open minded humans without prejudices.

Please remember:

My personal relationship to the Jewish community doesn't base on school knowledge or public education.

My personal relationship to the Jewish community based on pleasantly hours with friendly Jewish Rabbins.

We are very sad about the primitive and mean attacks on the Rabbiner David Alter in Berlin.

I fear, that it is not possible to stop the hardliners of these primitive and silly humans.

But **I hope**, it is possible to reduce the numbers of humans with prejudices and bad minds.

Thank you for your interest and your cooperation !