

# Press Release



Connecting for Tomorrow

## **German Israelcongress 2013**

**Berlin, August 22, 2013:** Since its founding in 2009, the German Israel Congress has been able to establish itself as a qualified think-tank on German-Israeli relations. The Congress offers experts, entrepreneurs, politicians, the media, NGOs and the interested public a platform for dialogue, information and cooperation. The Congress' primary objective is the deepening of the bilateral relationship between Israel and Germany. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Israel Congress will take place November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Berlin Congress Center. Once again, it is being organised by the non-profit association ILI – I Like Israel e.V.

3000 participants and 200 supporting organisations and municipalities participated at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Israel Congress, which took place in Frankfurt in 2011. Conclusions resulting from the high ranking panel discussions, speeches and workshops pointed to the special relationship between Germany and Israel by emphasizing shared values and strategic interests, at both political and economic levels, alongside both country's shared history.

### **Extraordinary Potential**

The German Israel Congress is taking place, this year, for the third time. Under the heading **“Connecting for Tomorrow”**, the Congress aims to highlight both country's extraordinary shared potentials and synergies. In order to achieve this goal, content and structure of the Congress has been revamped and will now concentrate on five thematic pillars: Politics, Economics, Sciences, Culture and Religion. Experts will deal with these themes in the, so called, “Labs” together with Lab participants. Lab results will be dealt with in follow-up projects by NGOs. Through such approaches, the German Israel Congress also becomes a strategic platform - going beyond the event, for example, by invigorating the relationships between private companies.

Immigration and the future of German-Israeli relations will be the focal point of the Political Lab. The Business Lab will look closely at the start-up synergies between Germany and Israel whereas the Science Lab will introduce academic cooperation initiatives between the two countries. A deep look at the role that art and culture plays in bridge-building will be taken on at the Culture Lab while theological dialogue and its role in the relationship between both countries will be given a platform at the Religion Lab.

### **Top-Notch Patrons**

Patrons of this year's German Israel Congress are Israel's ambassador to Germany, H.E. Yakov Hadas-Handelsman, President of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and Vice-President of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Dieter Graumann and the chairperson of the Frieder Springe Foundation, the publisher Dr. Friede Springer.

The third German Israel Congress will take place November 10, 2013 from 10:00-21:00  
at the Berlin Congress Center – BCC am Alexanderplatz.  
See [www.israelkongress.de](http://www.israelkongress.de) for registration details.

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