

The Bureau has carried out high level visits to the following embassies and high commissions



Estonia: Bureau members had a wide-ranging discussion with the Ambassador about the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, the role of Iran in igniting regional terror and the situation in Ukraine, together with the likely ramifications of Trump's inauguration.

Japan: The Bureau met with a senior diplomat in the embassy to discuss the ceasefire that had been entered into by Israel and Hamas. The Bureau also suggested that Japan should join IHRA.



Belgium: Bureau members discussed Belgium's recent voting record on Israel at the UN and in the EU, the fate of hostages and the worrying increase in antisemitism seen in Belgium recently.

Vatican City: The Bureau spoke about the recent crisis in relations between the Papacy and Israel in light of various comments and statements issued by the Pope since the October 7 attacks. It also raised the issue of Christian persecution in the Middle East.



Norway: The Bureau had a frank exchange with the Norwegian Ambassador, discussing the decision to unilaterally recognise a Palestinian state, Norway-Israel ties and the Trump peace plan.

Jordan: There was a meeting with the Jordanian Ambassador to discuss the Egyptian peace proposal for Gaza in light of the recent decision to restart the war in Gaza.



HMD EVENTS:

FCDO: Jeremy represented BBUK at the HMD event in the Foreign Office's Locarno Suite. He spoke to a number of ambassadors from various countries and also saw dignitaries from the Anglo-Jewish community.

At the Albanian Embassy: Jeremy, David Summers and John Altman went to an HMD event at the embassy, which featured a special travelling exhibition produced by Yad Vashem. Titled "*Besa: A Code of Honour*", the exhibition was based on 12 large photographs taken by Norman Gershman, and the rescue stories of Muslim-Albanian families who saved Jews.

OTHER MEETINGS



Online: Sacha Stawski, President and Editor in Chief of Honestly Concerned, gave an online talk to friends and members of B'nai B'rith UK on '*The current situation facing Jews worldwide and the response of our European organisations.*' He gave a broad overview of how anti-semitism had spiked around the world in the aftermath of the October 7 attacks, and of how authorities had often failed to deal with it. He also spoke about those groups who had chosen to ally with Israel and the Jewish people during this immensely difficult period.

On 12 March, Pinner Synagogue jointly hosted with B'nai B'rith UK a community meeting attended by members and representatives from many synagogues and organisations in North West London & the Hertfordshire borders, with Deputy Assistant Commissioner Ade Adelekan, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Ben Russell and Superintendent Zubin Writer of the Metropolitan Police Service. They spoke about the challenges of policing in London after 7 October with a specific focus on how this had evolved. The DACs talked about the vital importance of engaging with London's many and various communities, given the rising trends of antisemitism and Islamophobia.



L to R Superintendent Zubin Writer, DAC Ben Russell, Jeremy Havardi, DAC Ade Adelekan, Alan Miller.

UNESCO Visit: In March 2025, Jeremy took part in BBI's annual advocacy mission to UNESCO in Paris, holding a large number of meetings with diplomats. Among those he met with the Ambassadors of Bulgaria, Latvia, Paraguay and Israel, along with directors from the World Heritage programme. He also renewed friendships with key figures in BBI.



From second left: Jeremy Havardi; Mr Eloundo, UNESCO Director of World Heritage; Eric Engelmayer of BBI, Mr Ernesto Ottone, the Assistant Director General of Culture for UNESCO; Stephane Teicher BBI UNESCO Rep; Jacques Jacubert of BB France.

