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## FORWARD INTO EASTERN EUROPE

The first TJCII Consultation for Eastern Europe was held at Tatranska Lomnicá in the High Tatra mountains of northern Slovakia from October 24–27, 2011. People from Slovakia, Czech republic, Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania gathered with TJCII leaders and intercessors from Western Europe and from Israel. The event was excellently organized and led by Pavol Strežo (Slovakia), aided by a committed team. The worship was led each evening by Irek Csubak from Cracow, Poland (all Hebrew songs), and each morning by young Slovak musicians. On the Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, lively messages were given by Boris Grisenko from Kiev Messianic Jewish congregation in the Ukraine. Besides Pastor Boris, his wife and two young assistants, there were Messianic Jews from Bucharest, Romania (Florin Suciú) and Budapest, Hungary (András Liebermann). On the Wednesday, the issue of Jews in the Churches came up, and about six present identified themselves as Jewish or as church members with a Jewish heritage that was important to them.



A striking difference from previous TJCII consultations was the large number of young people, making the average age much lower. A session led by the NOW Generation (young leaders from Israel and Europe) had about 40 participants. On the first evening Heribert Binder (Austria) showed a new power point on the history of Israel and the Church. Pastor Binder is doing further research on possible examples of hidden Jewish believers in the synagogues of Eastern Europe even in the 17th century. The first two teachings were given by Benjamin Berger, with a strong emphasis on the calling of Israel and the complementary role of Israel and the nations in God's plan. Other teachings were given by Hans Scholz (Germany) and Peter Hocken (Austria), followed at the end by a strong exhortation from European Director, Johannes Fichtenbauer.

At the end, the group from Poland were ready to move ahead with a national team. The Hungarians are also ready to move ahead with a team after some years of interested support from several of them. The Czechs included two veterans of the International Christian Embassy, who learned about TJCII in detail for the first time. The Lithuanians, all from one community, want to pursue back home how to spread this vision. Pavol Strežo will continue working for TJCII with the many young people who came along with a few more experienced believers. We prayed the Lord's guidance for Florin Suciú, as with David Nagy of Oradea, and his collaboration with Fr Vasile Mihoc on future Orthodox – Messianic conferences in Romania.

Two YWAM leaders who came from Norway are excited by the TJCII vision, so we hope that they will show TJCII Europe the way forward in Scandinavia. After this meeting it is likely that the next Eastern European consultation will be hosted by the Messianic brothers in the Ukraine. **TJCII**

# TESTIMONIES SHARED

**András Liebermann (Messianic Jew, Budapest, Hungary)**

"The holiness and presence of our Jewish Messiah Yeshua has deeply touched my heart during the whole conference! I have – for the first time in my life – experienced the freedom of the Holy Spirit in extra measure!

The Lord has powerfully used every teacher, because their insights regarding the vision of TJCII were extremely important! Nevertheless, I would highlight Benjamin Berger's teaching about the depths of God's heart! His approach to the cultivated Olive Tree brought Yeshua's desire closer to our hearts and minds! Secondly, Peter Hocken's teaching and warning in connection with pride and sins meant a lot to me, because avoidance of self-righteousness and sin is important, not only for Gentile Christians, but for the Jewish part of the Body of the Messiah as well.

Last, but not least, the Ruach HaKodesh / Holy Spirit has ignited Eliyahu's fire in my heart by Johannes Fichtenbauer's words in the "Calling to serve "section." I have received a lot of affirmation regarding the revelations of God that He had given to me earlier!"



**Dr. Jana Merašická (psychologist; free church, Partizánske, Slovakia)**

"For me, the TJCII consultation was one of the most powerful spiritual experiences of my life. I have ministry for Israel in our church for about 6 years and I really love Jews. But for the first time I realized what Paul apostle says in Ephesians 2:15 about the one new man. I think that in church we do not experience this promise fully yet. In my opinion this connection with TJCII can give us a new fulfillment in Christ. After I had returned home, I had the opportunity to preach about it, and God's awe fell upon our congregation. People experienced joy and sorrow. They repented for their sins and for their sins toward Jews. Two people confessed their indifference toward their Jewish roots.

Our pastors evaluated this as key sermon for our further development. We could bless Israel and Messianic Jews in a new way. I experienced God's action in me in a new way as he confirmed His presence in me through my relation with Israel."



**Maria Miduch (teacher of Hebrew and Old Testament at the Salesian theological seminary in Cracow, Poland; writing her doctoral thesis on biblical hermeneutics and Judaic studies)**

"Belief in God's faithfulness to His promises, the desire for unity, and the need to worship together were combined at the first TJCII Eastern European Consultation held in Slovakia. We were deeply touched by what we heard about the history, organization, and the spirit of TJC II. During these days our unity was demonstrated in the worship, in the understanding of God's Plan, in recognizing the guilt of the nations against Israel and against God Himself, asking for forgiveness and receiving the joy that comes from reconciliation. We were encouraged by testimonies from people of different denominations all led by the same Spirit. During national meetings we reflected on a commitment to TJC II and made some decisions on how to organize. The presence of the Israeli brothers encouraged us even more. We were united in the common desire for Messiah who will come back to marry his Bride – one Church."



**Benjamin Berger praying for the Jewish believers.**

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**Florinel Suci (pastor of a Messianic Jewish congregation in Bucharest, Romania)**

Shalom U'vracha Ba'Mashiach!!!



TJCII in Slovakia has been a unique experience for me, first of all because I had the privilege to see believers from different denominations open and eager to learn about the initiative. My previous participation in a TJCII Consultation (5 times) was in Romania in a Christian Orthodox context.

This time in a non-Orthodox context I saw a different facet of TJCII, which for me was extremely important as one who has volunteered to help and promote the vision of TJCII wherever possible. In Slovakia I was highly encouraged to see how the Holy Ghost moves among other Messianic Jews. My presence in Slovakia opened my eyes to small things that can be done for TJCII Romania. One is to translate the TJCII materials into Romanian and to put it on our Romanian TJCII website, and to share the teaching of TJCII with Church leaders that we know. A big THANK YOU to all those who did their best so I could attend this Consultation.

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**Johannes Fichtenbauer (European Director for TJCII) with Boris Grisenko (Messianic leader from Kiev, Ukraine, and his wife Anna.**

## Introducing Christine Braunsteiner, Our new TJCII European Coordinator for Intercessors, in Austria



Christine's background is in the Roman Catholic Church and the Catholic charismatic renewal. Being single in the moment, and looking forward to the plans of the Lord for her life, the 26-year old will soon start to work as a teacher.

Christine first came in contact with TJCII in 2004 through Fr. Peter Hocken, who gave her the "Vision" booklet. She says "The Vision of TJCII touched my heart deeply. I knew: this is it! I would love to be part of this initiative. A few months later I started to participate in the Viennese group of TJCII intercessors."

Since Gnadenthal 2008 Christine has been involved with the Now Generation of TJCII. Her desire is to help to prepare the Bride for the wedding feast of the Lamb. In January 2012 she will take over the European prayer coordination from Ans Leitner.

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**Christine Braunsteiner and Ans Leitner**

# My Way into TJCII

By Martin Bühlmann



As a young boy of 9 years I was deeply touched by the history of Israel. My parents took me to a meeting where Israelis shared about their experience in the Holy Land, living in the Kibbutz and building up the nation. Today I see that this spiritual experience sowed a seed in my young heart about Israel and the Jewish people. But only after a spiritual encounter with God, when I was 19 years old, did I truly convert my heart to the Lordship of the Messiah. The experience of that young boy returned, and I started to pray about my relationship with Jewish people.

When Georgia and I started the Vineyard in Berne, Switzerland, the desire to work as a bridge-builder between denominations and Jewish people became a primary issue. Since the Lord always started things in my life through personal relationships and friendships, I started reaching out to Roman Catholics, Protestants of various denominations and leaders of new churches, Pentecostal and evangelical.

As a leader of a local congregation I started studying the messianic movement and hoped to be able to develop some meaningful relationships. I reached out to the local Jewish community and made some wonderful friends. Over the years I got to know many Israelis who were mostly non-religious. These relationships were so helpful and meaningful to both Georgia and me. Only after I met Marcel Rebiai was I finally introduced to the messianic movement. This relationship helped me to establish the Pessach Seder, Sukkot and Shavuot in the Berne Vineyard, and finally an equivalent to the Shabbat Seder. This again opened many doors to the Jewish community and fed my hunger to help churches, congregations in and outside the Vineyard, to discover their biblical roots in the feasts. When Marcel told me of the vision of TJCII, I had a spiritual encounter with the Lord, encouraging me to connect deeply with the brothers and friends of TJCII in order to advance the unity between the messianic body and the body from the nations. I found a group of committed men in TJCII with a kindred spirit and desire to see unity in the Body of Christ, preparing the way of the Lord. TJCII

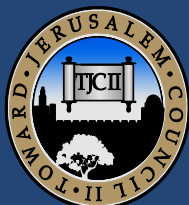
**ATTENTION:** all 20-40 year olds:

The **NOW GENERATION** (20-40 year olds) will be meeting in Dolny Kubin, Slovakia February 10 through 12, 2012. All interested young people of this age group are welcome to join them for this weekend.

PLEASE tell all your friends. Details may be obtained at [tjcii.slovakia@gmail.com](mailto:tjcii.slovakia@gmail.com).

May we send you the TJCII Communiqué electronically? In this way you could help us at TJCII be even better stewards. As the cost of postage escalates, we feel compelled to use email wherever possible. Please send us your email address at [egs@tjcii.org](mailto:egs@tjcii.org) and thank you for your generosity.

## TOWARD JERUSALEM COUNCIL II



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## The Aims of TJCII Include:

- Make known the restoration of the Jewish segments of the Body of Messiah
- Foster repentance for the historic suppression of the corporate Messianic Jewish witness of Yeshua (Jesus), the Messiah
- Further the calling and election of Israel and the Messianic Jewish Community through intercessory prayer, teachings and diplomacy
- Foster reconciliation and unity between Christians and Messianic Jews