



EVZ FOUNDATION AWARD  
for Jewish-Muslim Solidarity

## **Muslim-Jewish Cooperation for Changing the Narrative**

*Zoom, 26 May, 3 – 6 pm CEST*

Many people think that Muslims and Jews are mostly at odds. However, as KIgA e.V., we have witnessed unique and inspiring initiatives facilitating a dialog between the two faith groups.

First and foremost, we need to underline that these communities are not homogeneous groups. Since there is a range of social, religious, ethnic, and cultural identities within each community, we cannot talk about uniform communities, but rather diverse communities intersect one another. For instance, religious Jews and Muslims might agree on some issues while disagreeing with their secular counterparts on those very same issues. A young Muslim artist might have more in common with a Jewish peer than someone who just happens to have the same religious identity.

The only way to deal with the multiple identities, intersections, and conflicts is to embrace complexity and develop a better understanding and respect towards others.

Naturally, there are different opinions about political issues - the most virulent issue may be the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, we have common fears concerning the surge of anti-Muslim hatred and antisemitism in society.

Finally, there are also "surprising" dialogues or even alliances between Jews and Muslims worldwide, notwithstanding some backlash from their communities. Rather than giving in to apprehension and fear, some choose to focus on what they are able to achieve together for the greater good.

In this transatlantic workshop, we want to bring together the organizations we have worked with in recent years and participants of the EVZ Foundation Jewish-Muslim Solidarity Award. In our experience, encounters help bring about more hope, examine the issues from different angles, and feel empowered in a global community of Muslim and Jewish change-leaders and do-gooders.

**KIgA e.V. is inviting you to the "Muslim-Jewish Cooperation for Changing the Narrative" workshop. Let's take one more step towards changing the narrative about Jewish-Muslim relations.**

[Please register for the meeting using this link.](#)

## Schedule

26 May, 3 – 6 pm CEST

(Only for registered participants)

3 – 4.15 pm

### Panel Discussion: Changing the Narrative about Jewish-Muslim Relations

Moderation: **Dr. Andrea Despot**, CEO, [EVZ Foundation](#)

- **Dervis Hizarci**, Chair of the Board, [KlgA e.V.](#)
- **Majid Alsayegh**, Member, [Inter Jewish Muslim Alliance](#), USA
- **Chantal Suissa-Runne**, Co-founder, Yalla! - National Network for Jews & Muslims, the Netherlands

4.30 – 5.15 pm

### In Focus: Good Practices Giving Us Hope

We will be discussing concrete practices and methods for changing the narrative and building solidarity between Muslims and Jews. How do we carry out this change into the rest of society? How do we make an impact and inspire others to follow in our footsteps?

Group 1 **Achim "Waseem" Seger, ausARTen, Germany**

Language: English  
*A festival that provides a space and a stage for Jewish and Muslim perspectives on different social and cultural issues; the winner of EVZ Foundation Jewish-Muslim Solidarity Award — [islam-muenchen.de/blog/ausarten](http://islam-muenchen.de/blog/ausarten)*

Group 2 **Sharon Booth & Ali Amla, Solutions not Sides, UK**

Language: English  
*Working with young people to promote conflict resolution and empathy about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and interfaith understanding — [solutionsnotsides.co.uk](http://solutionsnotsides.co.uk)*

Group 3 **Atiya Aftab, Sisterhood of Salaam-Shalom, US**

Language: English  
*Sisterhood builds trust, respect, and relationships between Muslim and Jewish women and teenage girls; EVZ Foundation Jewish-Muslim Solidarity Award winner in 2019 — [sosspeace.org](http://sosspeace.org)*

Group 4 **Jüdisch-Muslimische Kulturtage in Heidelberg**

Language: German  
*JMKT, sind ein deutschlandweit einzigartiges Format: Im Jahre 2017 taten sich die Organisatorinnen und Organisatoren der Jüdischen Kulturtage und die der Muslimischen Kulturtage in Heidelberg zusammen. — [jmkt.de/ueber-jmkt](http://jmkt.de/ueber-jmkt)*

5.15 – 5.45 pm

### Conclusion

*Learnings, follow-up points, last words...*