Rabbi David Rosen

Biography

Rabbi David Rosen is the President of IJCIC, the International Jewish Committee that represents World Jewry in its relations with other world Religions. He is Director of the Department for Interreligious Affairs and Director of the Heilbrunn Institute for International Interreligious Understanding of the American Jewish Committee.

In November 2005 at a ceremony in Jerusalem, Rabbi Rosen was named a papal Knight Commander of the order of St Gregory the Great for his outstanding contributions to promoting Catholic-Jewish reconciliation.

Rabbi Rosen is an International President of the World Conference of Religion for Peace (WCRP), the all-encompassing world inter-faith body (incorporating fifteen religions in over fifty countries); he is Honorary President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ), the umbrella organization for more than thirty national bodies promoting Christian-Jewish relations (the ICCJ's Abrahamic Forum promotes dialogue between Muslims, Christians and Jews) and serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the World Congress of Imams and Rabbis. Rabbi Rosen is a charter member of the International Advisory Committee of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions (CPWR); and is a member of the World Economic Forum's C-100, a council of 100 leaders formed for the purpose of improving relations and cooperation between the Muslim and Western worlds. He was one of the initiators and participants of The Alexandria Summit, the first Middle East Interfaith Summit with the participation of the leaders of the three monotheistic faiths of the Holy Land, held in Alexandria, Egypt, and is a member of its Permanent Committee For The Implementation Of The Alexandria Declaration (PCIAD); and he was a member of the Permanent Bilateral Commission of the State of Israel and the Holy See that negotiated the normalization of relations between the two.

Rabbi Rosen is a member of the Israeli Chief Rabbinate's delegation for interreligious dialogue with the Holy See and is a founder of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel that embraces some seventy organizations in Israel involved in interfaith relations.

After an absence of some 11 years, he returned to Israel in 1985 to take up the appointment of Dean at the Sapir Center for Jewish Education and Culture in the Old City of Jerusalem and subsequently became Professor of Jewish Studies at the Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies. At that time he also served as the Anti Defamation League's Director of Interfaith Relations in Israel and as the ADL's co-liaison to the Vatican. In 1997 he was appointed to the position of Director of the ADL Israel office.

From 1979 to 1985, Rabbi Rosen was Chief Rabbi of Ireland where he founded, together with the Christian Primates of Ireland, the Irish Council of Christians and Jews. He was a member of the Academic Council as well as lecturer at the Irish School of Ecumenics.

From 1975 to 1979, he was the Senior Rabbi of the largest Jewish congregation in South Africa and rabbinic judge on the Ecclesiastical Court (Beth Din). He was also founder/chairman of the Inter-Faith Forum, the Council of Jews, Christians and Muslims.