



MEDIA ADVISORY NOTE

Join Half-Day Conference on Circumcision and Jewish Life

24 June 2026 at 10:00-12:30 | Lab62, Av. de Tervueren 62, 1040 Brussels

Key media angles:

- **Conference will hear from international medical, legal and political experts** on the future of ritual circumcision in Belgium.
- **Panellists will address the question of whether Jews need to prepare to leave Belgium** if religious circumcision becomes legally uncertain or impossible.
- **Muslim and Christian leaders will be asked how they view this issue** and what restrictions on circumcision could mean for wider religious freedom.
- **Prime Minister Bart De Wever has called to “find a solution” — but what solution is legally, medically and religiously possible?**

Brussels, — In light of the postponed court decision on whether Jewish ritual circumcisers may face prosecution, the European Jewish Association invites members of the press, policymakers, medical professionals and community representatives to attend a half-day conference on **circumcision and the future of Jewish life in Belgium**.

The conference will take place in Brussels and will bring together leading national and international **urologists, legal scholars, politicians and Jewish representatives** for a timely and urgent discussion on one of the most sensitive questions facing Jewish communities today: how to uphold the **highest medical standards** while fully respecting **religious freedom and religious tradition**.

At a time of growing legal uncertainty, the conference will not avoid the difficult questions. Participants will examine whether Jewish families can continue to live freely in Belgium if ritual circumcision is placed under threat, whether the issue also affects Muslim communities, and how Christian leaders view the broader implications for religious freedom.

The event will also respond to Prime Minister **Bart De Wever's call to "find a solution"** by asking what such a solution could look like in practice — medically, legally and politically, while hearing from best practises from other countries.

Rabbi Menachem Margolin, Chairman of the European Jewish Association, said:

"This conference is not about confrontation, but about responsibility. Belgium's leaders have said that a solution must be found. We are bringing together medical experts, legal voices, religious leaders and policymakers to ask the only question that matters now: what solution can protect children, respect religious freedom and ensure that Jewish life remains possible in Belgium?"

Katharina von Schnurbein, European Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, will be among the keynote speakers, alongside senior Jewish representatives and medical and legal experts.

Conference Details

DATE: Wednesday, 24 June 2026 at 10:00-12:30. Networking Lunch will follow

VENUE: Lab62, Av. de Tervueren 62, 1040 Brussels

TO REGISTER: Please click [here](#). **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

Languages: English and Dutch, with live translation provided

Press contacts:

Yossi Lempkowicz

M: +32 476 71 34 79

E: yossi.lempkowicz@eipa.eu.com