

European Christians Mobilize to Support Israel

Michael Freund – Jerusalem Post, September 20th, 2011

[Editor's Note: UCI proudly featured the below-mentioned, Dr. Jacques Gauthier, on Capitol Hill this week. [See the UCI Media Alert here.](#)

The author of this article, Michael Freund, originally published September 11, had this to say yesterday at the Brussels event,

"Jerusalem belongs to the Jewish people. For more than 2000 years we have prayed to return to Jerusalem. Does the international community honestly think that - after all the persecutions, forced conversions and pogroms in Europe – we are just going to get up and leave? No way! We are here to stay. At the same time, the people in Israel are nervous. No-one knows what is going to happen. To see so many Christians gather here today gives us great comfort and strength to persevere."]

In advance of Palestinian diplomatic moves at the United Nations next week, two of the leading Christian groups in Europe have joined forces to counter mounting pressure on the Jewish state.

Christians for Israel International, headquartered in Nijkerk, the Netherlands, and the Brussels-based European Coalition for Israel, will hold joint protests on September 13 in The Hague and September 19 in Brussels, with the stated aim being “to defend Jerusalem as the undivided capital of the Jewish state of Israel.”

“As Christians, we feel it is our task to be obedient to God, and to warn the nations to respect God’s sovereignty,” Andrew Tucker, executive director of Christians for Israel International, told *The Jerusalem Post*. “We simply cannot remain silent while the nations are planning to give Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria to Israel’s enemies.”

Tomas Sandell, the founding director of the **European Coalition for Israel**, concurred.

“During previous periods in history Christians have – by and large – failed the Jewish people. This time we want it to be crystal clear that there are those out there who disagree with the UN plan to divide Jerusalem and unilaterally create a Palestinian state along the 1967 lines,” he said.

In recent months, the two organizations have convened high-level conferences in six European countries, where Dr.

Jacques Gauthier, a Canadian lawyer and human rights advocate and author of the book *Sovereignty over the Old City of Jerusalem*, made the case for Israel to various European leaders and journalists.

The groups have also published and distributed a series of articles in Dutch, German and English highlighting the legal, historical and biblical rights of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel, which they have made available on a website aimed at Christians called www.whysisrael.org.

And this week, the Christians for Israel’s German branch will deliver a declaration of support for the Jewish state to the German government which was signed by 40,000 people.

“We do everything we can to inform decision-makers and others about the historical background and the solemn pledges made to the Jewish people under international law,” Sandell said. “Most people, including those in government, have no idea.”

Asked why Christians would invest so much time and effort on behalf of Israel, Tucker said, “We realize that Israel’s God is our God, and Israel’s destiny is also our destiny.

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