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Media Contact: aen@berlinrosen.com

AEN LEADS 1st-EVER LAW FACULTY DELEGATION TO ISRAEL

**Legal scholars gained better understanding of Jewish identity,
antisemitism, and Israel's legal and security landscape**

WASHINGTON, DC (November 10, 2025) – Last week, the Academic Engagement Network (AEN) hosted its first-ever delegation of U.S. law faculty to Israel from November 2 - 6, 2025. The program brought together leading experts in law, international relations, and human rights to deepen their understanding of Israeli society, politics, and culture, in particular its legal and security challenges.

As the first delegation of its kind, the initiative recognizes that law faculty – who shape how future lawyers understand ethics, equality, and discrimination – play a critical role in addressing antisemitism and anti-Israel bias on campus and in society. Understanding the complexities and nuances of Israeli society, with a specific emphasis on debates surrounding humanitarian law, military ethics, and constitutional frameworks, will be essential in creating programming and dialogue that expands the too-often narrow discourse on Israel on many US campuses.

During the November delegation, 24 law faculty from schools around the country, including Harvard, Cornell, Penn State, Duquesne, University of Missouri, Northwestern, Northern Arizona University, Florida International University, and Colorado State University, traveled throughout Israel to meet with Israeli legal scholars, jurists, activists, thought leaders, and policymakers. The group visited courts, universities, and legal institutions, including the Israeli Supreme Court, the Knesset, and a range of civil society organizations, where they learned different perspectives on addressing legal challenges in times of crisis and beyond. Participants brought insights from their experiences back to their home institutions, enriching their teaching on human rights, constitutional law, and countering discrimination.

This law faculty delegation underscores AEN's belief in the power of direct engagement to strengthen intellectual and professional ties between the United States and Israel. By facilitating opportunities for university faculty and administrators to experience Israel's legal and academic institutions firsthand, AEN helps strengthen channels of communication, encourages the free

exchange of ideas, and deepens mutual understanding among scholars committed to advancing rigorous and open inquiry.

“AEN is proud to be able to support these crucial faculty and administrator missions to Israel because they embody our core values of academic freedom, open inquiry, and genuine dialogue,” **said Miriam Elman, Executive Director of AEN.** “Law professors are often on the frontlines of defining and defending civil rights, and it’s essential that those who teach about discrimination also understand antisemitism. At a time when disinformation about Israel is rampant on college campuses and some seek to shut down engagement through academic boycotts, these missions reaffirm the importance of connecting directly with Israeli scholars and institutions. Through conversation and collaboration, faculty participants strengthen the principles of free expression and intellectual exchange that lie at the heart of higher education.”

Its [Faculty Against Antisemitism Movement](#) (FAAM), launched after October 7th, empowers AEN faculty members, as well as other academics who choose to get involved, to stand against antisemitism, the denigration of Jewish identity, and anti-Israel bias on their campuses and to collectively urge university leaders to take appropriate action. More than 25,000 faculty nationwide have become active in FAAM over the last year.

AEN faculty members at UPenn, UCLA, Yale, Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, the University of Cincinnati, and MIT have also organized faculty solidarity and educational missions to Israel. This law delegation builds on that momentum, offering a model for how scholars in specialized disciplines can engage with Israel in ways directly relevant to their teaching and research. This is the eighth delegation to Israel trip for faculty or administrators that AEN has sponsored or led, reflecting the organization’s deep commitment to fostering sustained engagement between academics in both countries.

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AEN is a national organization that mobilizes networks of university faculty and administrators to counter antisemitism, oppose the denigration of Jewish and Zionist identities, promote academic freedom, and advance education about Israel. More at <https://academicengagement.org/> and <https://www.facultyagainstantisemitism.org/>.