

**GRUßWORT DER VORSITZENDEN DER EUROPEAN UNION  
FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM, MIRIAM KRAMER (LONDON)**

**Greetings for Abraham Geiger College Ordination**

*By Miriam Kramer, Chairman, European Union for  
Progressive Judaism (London)*

“It gives me great pleasure, as chairman of the European Union for Progressive Judaism, to be present at this Ordination ceremony at Abraham Geiger College.

This is an important year in the history of Progressive Judaism: 90 years ago, in 1926, delegates from nine countries including Germany, gathered in London to form the World Union for Progressive Judaism. How pleased and proud they would be that this organisation now represents some 1.8 million people in 50 countries throughout the world, the largest Jewish religious organisation on the planet.

They would be shocked and distressed at the devastating events here in Europe just over a decade later, but I think they would – like so many people – rejoice in the Jewish phoenix rising from the ashes 17 years ago in the shape of Abraham Geiger College. The aim of this institution, in the vision of its founder and rector Rabbi Walter Homolka, is to produce rabbis for Europe and beyond, and that is precisely what is happening.

On behalf of the European Union and the World Union for Progressive Judaism I send congratulations on this important occasion. Our wish is that Abraham Geiger College and Progressive Judaism continue to go from strength to strength.”

*Miriam Kramer, Chairman*

*European Union for Progressive Judaism*

*Hannover 1 December 2016*