

[View this email in your browser](#)



---

For those who [celebrate](#) the Jewish holidays, a new year is coming. As we approach the High Holiday season, we are grateful that your generosity has enabled us to support students and faculty at a large and growing number of universities. This month, we announced a major federal investigation into anti-Semitism at the [University of Vermont](#). Federal investigators are also investigating several other universities based on our legal work including the [University of Illinois](#), [Brooklyn College](#), [USC](#), and [Stanford](#). This month's Brandeis Brief explains our newest case, as well as other exciting developments at the Louis D. Brandeis Center.

---

## **Brandeis Center + Jewish on Campus Complaint Leads to U.S. Anti-Semitism Investigation at UVM**

In response to a [complaint](#) filed jointly by the Brandeis Center and Jewish on Campus, OCR recently [announced](#) it has opened a formal [investigation](#) into anti-Semitism at the [University of Vermont](#) (UVM). Last week, when the UVM President issued a dismissive response to the complaint, twenty national Jewish American organizations, including the ADL, AJC, Conference of Presidents, Jewish Federations of North America and Hillel International, issued a scathing [joint statement](#) expressing grave alarm over the university president's refusal to acknowledge the hostile environment for Jews on his campus and decrying the president's 'victim blaming.' The Brandeis Center and Jewish on Campus criticized the UVM president's statement as "astonishingly inadequate" and "offensive" and issued our own [statement](#) rebutting each point contained in UVM's response.



---

### **Kenneth L. Marcus Op-Ed in *The Hill* Highlights Dept. of Ed. Message on Anti-Semitism**



Writing in [The Hill](#), Brandeis Center Chairman **Kenneth L. Marcus** amplified Assistant Secretary of Education Catherine E. Lhamon’s important comment on campus anti-Semitism. Addressing a K-12 case, Lhamon noted “a distressing rise in reports of anti-Semitism on campuses across the country.” Lhamon thus sent a message to higher education officials, as the Brandeis Center had requested, apprising them of OCR’s awareness of rising anti-Semitism in the college and university context. Her message to the administrators was clear: respond promptly and effectively to campus anti-Semitism, or your institution could face federal consequences.

---

### **L. Rachel Lerman Joins Ethnic Studies Webinar, Featured in New Podcast**

Brandeis Center Vice Chair and General Counsel **L. Rachel Lerman** joined a ‘Parents Defending Education Live’ [panel discussion](#) on the subject of controversial (‘liberated’) ethnic studies curricula earlier this month. The panel exposed facts about ‘liberated’ ethnic studies that its proponents don’t want you to know. Lerman shared examples of anti-Semitic lessons she has seen in ethnic studies curricula and teacher training modules. Lerman also

– their paths to the bench, the bar and beyond. [Hear more](#) of Lerman’s fascinating journey from artist to appellate litigator to civil rights lawyer – or catch just the excerpts of her Brandeis Center work [here](#).



---

## Chairman Marcus to Lead Indiana University Bloomington Webinar October 23



Brandeis Center Chairman **Kenneth L. Marcus** will lead a Beinrer Family Speakers Series webinar for the [Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism](#) at Indiana University Bloomington on Sunday, October 23. [His session](#) is titled ‘The Wayward Healer: Iatrogenic Antisemitism and the

Perils of Intervention,’ and [registration](#) is open. The list of remaining lectures in this series is found [here](#): Martin Kramer (October 2); Thane Rosenbaum (October 16); Ofir Winter (October 30); Ben Cohen (November 6); Franziska Haug (November 13); Yana Grinshpun (December 4).

---

## Brandeis Center Hires Attorney Ben Alkon

The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law is pleased to [announce](#) the appointment of **Ben Alkon** as the organization’s newest full-time attorney. Mr. Alkon, a 2020 graduate of George Washington University Law School, will work on legal advocacy initiatives, including investigations of anti-Semitic incidents on campus, advising students who face anti-Semitic harassment and discrimination, and preparing legal complaints. He will also assist with training programs and coordinate with strategic partners in the college space. Mr. Alkon’s appointment continues the Brandeis Center’s ongoing expansion. In addition to its historic focus on combatting campus anti-Semitism, the Brandeis Center



---

## Intern Roundtable

Summer intern (and Duke sophomore) [Danya Belkin](#) published a blog post assembling videos that highlight the Brandeis Center's work. Danya's video playlist can be used to educate and combat anti-Semitism on campuses nationwide. Returning intern (and UMD senior) [Josh Feinstein](#) published a piece about German airline Lufthansa, the first airline to adopt the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism. New fall intern [Tzivia Lutch](#) (and Touro University junior) published a piece about the Beinler Family Speaker Series at Indiana University Bloomington's Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism.

---

[Donate to the Brandeis Center](#)

---

[Sign up for our monthly Brandeis Brief and other messages from us](#)

[Forward this email to a friend](#)

---

The Louis D. Brandeis Center  
1717 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 1025, Washington, DC 20006

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

The Louis D. Brandeis Center is a nonprofit organization supported by individuals, groups and foundations that share our concern about Jewish college students. Contributions are tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. To [support](#) our efforts to combat campus anti-Semitism, please contact us at [info@brandeiscenter.com](mailto:info@brandeiscenter.com)



[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)