**Jewish Community- Bet Israel Kosovo**

**Information Sheet for Institutional Partners**

**Introduction of the Community**
The Jewish Community “Bet Israel” is the official Jewish community in the Republic of Kosovo, officially registered since 2008 following the country’s declaration of independence. With roots dating back over 500 years — since the arrival of Sephardic Jews in the Balkans — our community represents a continuity of spiritual, cultural, and human heritage present for centuries in Pristina and other regions of Kosovo.

The name **“Bet Israel”** is not coincidental: it was respectfully taken from the historic Synagogue of Pristina, which bore the same name and was an important religious and cultural center for Jews in the city. Through this name, the community maintains a living connection to its authentic heritage and the collective memory of an ancient coexistence.

Since its establishment, the Jewish Community-Bet Israel Kosovo has organized all Jewish holidays and commemorates the International Holocaust Remembrance Day every January

**Mission and Strategic Objectives**
Our mission is the preservation and promotion of Jewish heritage in Kosovo, strengthening interfaith and intercultural dialogue, educating younger generations, and fighting against antisemitism and all forms of hatred and prejudice.

Our main objectives include:

* Developing cultural, educational, and religious activities that preserve Jewish identity.
* Promoting peaceful coexistence through cooperation with other religious communities.
* Raising public awareness about the Holocaust as part of historical memory.
* Cooperating with local and international institutions on projects that strengthen tolerance and social cohesion.

**Holocaust Remembrance and Humanitarian Heritage**
During World War II, Albanians and Kosovars protected and sheltered Jews from Nazi persecution, following the ancient principle of **Besa** — a code of honor that supports the protection of human life regardless of background.

The Jewish Community “Bet Israel” commemorates this rare act of humanity through public events, academic cooperation, and participation in international initiatives for Holocaust remembrance.

**Fields for Cooperation**
We are open to partnerships in the following areas:

* Interfaith and intercultural dialogue
* Educational and awareness projects against antisemitism
* Preservation of Jewish cultural heritage in Kosovo
* Commemorative activities for the Holocaust and human rights education
* Projects with embassies, international organizations, and universities
* Call for Partnership
* The Jewish Community “Bet Israel” invites all public and international institutions, embassies, NGOs, and academic communities to cooperate with us in a spirit of mutual understanding, respect, and care for our shared human heritage.