

# World Zionist Congress 2025 Elections



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# What is the World Zionist Congress?

Founded in 1897 by  
Theodore Herzl

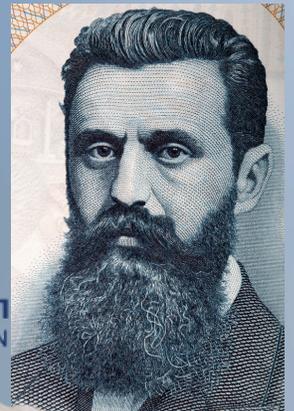
The First Zionist Congress  
was held in Basel,  
Switzerland

500 delegates  
30 nations, 6 continents

38% Israeli delegates  
29% American delegates  
33% Other Diaspora  
delegates



התאחדות הציונית העולמית  
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION



1897-1946: WZC was  
hosted in various  
European countries

Since 1951, the WZC has  
been held in Jerusalem

Decides policies and  
priorities for the World Zionist  
Organization

Allocates funding

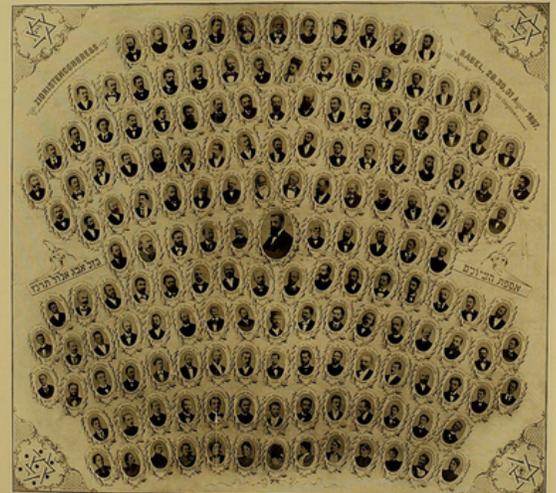
Leadership decisions for  
World Zionist Organization,  
the Jewish Agency, Jewish  
National Fund, Keren Hayesod  
United Israel Appeal.



# Then and Now

1897

First World Zionist Congress  
Basel, Switzerland



200 Participants  
17 Countries

Over half the delegates were  
from Eastern Europe

2023

38th World Zionist Congress  
Jerusalem, Israel



500+ Delegates

35 Countries

## 39th World Zionist Congress, 2025

*There are 22 Slates running for seats in the Congress. The more votes each slate receives, the more seats they win.*

- Achdut Israel
- AID Coalition (America-Israel Democracy)
- Aish Ha'am
- Am Yisrael Chai
- American Forum for Israel
- ANU: A New Union
- Beyachad
- Dorshei Torah V'Tzion
- Eretz Hakodesh
- Hatikvah Progressive Slate
- Herut North America
- Israeli American Council
- Israel365 Action
- Israel Shelanu: United for Change
- Kol Israel
- MERCAZ USA: The Voice of Conservative/Masorti Judaism
- Orthodox Israel Coalition - Mizrachi
- SHAS
- The Jewish Future
- VISION
- VOTE REFORM
- ZOA Coalition

**The Reconstructionist Movement  
is part of the Hatikvah Slate**

## Who Can Vote for the World Zionist Congress?

To vote for the 39th World Zionist Congress, you must be:

- ✓ Jewish (and not subscribe to another religion)
- ✓ 18 years or older by June 30, 2025
- ✓ A U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident in the U.S., with primary US residence
- ✓ Affirm your commitment to the Jerusalem Program (the Zionist movement platform)
- ✓ Have not voted in the November 2022 Knesset election (and will not vote in any future Knesset election which may be held prior to July 28, 2025)



Elections for the  
WZC run March 10 -  
May 4, 2025.

## **Where We Stand:**

### **The Reconstructionist Movement, Israel and Zionism (2024)**

From our movement's beginnings in the 1920s, we have expressed a deep commitment to the flourishing of Jewish life in the Land of Israel based on principles of democracy, Jewish religious pluralism, Jewish cultural renewal and the pursuit of compromise and peace with the Palestinians. In the decades since 1967, when Israel began its military rule over the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza and began building Jewish settlements there, the central organizations of our movement have approved multiple resolutions and published substantive reports calling for an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on the following five principles:

1. Securing Israel's place in the Middle East as a Jewish and democratic state according to the vision expressed in its Declaration of Independence;
2. Ending Israel's military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza;
3. Halting the expansion of settlements in those same territories;
4. Establishing a democratic Palestinian state alongside Israel within final borders to be agreed by both parties; and
5. Supporting Israeli and Palestinian negotiations seeking to achieve mutually agreed creative compromises to resolve the complex issues involving Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees.

*(Source: <https://www.reconstructingjudaism.org/israel/>)*

**Looking for more details about the Reconstructionist movement and Zionism today? Check out Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.reconstructingjudaism.org/israel/frequently-asked-questions/>**

# What is the Hatikvah Slate?

## What are the goals of the Hatikvah Slate?

- All citizens of the State of Israel must be treated equally, and their civil and human rights protected.
- The policy of permanent occupation and annexation of the West Bank needs to end.
- Zionism, gender rights, LGBTQI+ freedom, racial and economic justice are inextricably intertwined.
- Working together to bring the hostages home through broad coalition building across nations, political dispositions and an end to the current war.
- Supporting Israelis demanding the advancement of the rights of women, including equal pay for equal work, an end to enforced gender segregation, reproductive freedom and no discrimination against women's full participation in public events.
- Religious and cultural pluralism in Israeli society and in Jewish communities around the globe.
- Supporting Israelis working for a diplomatic pathway ensuring freedom, security, and sovereignty for both Israelis and Palestinians.

(Source: <https://www.hatikvahslate.net>)

The Hatikvah Slate is a coalition of progressive Zionist organizations



**HATIKVAH**  
PROGRESSIVE ISRAEL

The Hatikvah  
Slate is  
proudly  
Zionist  
and proudly  
progressive.

# The Diaspora Voice

**Grade(s): 4-12th**

**Number of participants: 4 or more**

**Time needed: 60-75 min**



## **Goal(s):**

Students will understand the role of the World Zionist Congress and its impact on global Jewry.

## **Objectives:**

Students will:

- Learn the history and purpose of the World Zionist Congress
- Participate in an election and congressional simulation
- Explore some of the issues decided by the WZC and understand their impact on Israel and global Jewry

## **Key Terms**

### **World Zionist Congress**

A group of elected delegates who vote for executive leadership, allocate funding, and decide policies for the the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency.

### **World Zionist Organization**

A non-governmental organization that promotes Zionism globally through Israel education and political advocacy. Founded in 1897 by Theodore Herzl.

### **Zionism**

A political ideology that supports the creation and existence of a Jewish state in the Land of Israel.

### **Progressive Zionism**

A political ideology that supports the existence of the State of Israel, opposition to the occupation, and ensuring safety and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

# SETTING UP



## Materials

- Whiteboard or large paper
- Markers / Pencils
- Computer
- Making Decisions Worksheet (Appendix)
- Platforms (Appendix)
- Box to collect ballots

## Set Up Suggestions

Students will need space to move around, to watch short videos, and to work together in small groups.

## My Notes



## Hebrew Wordbank

## אוצר מלים בעברית

World	HaKongres	הקונגרס הציוני
Zionist	HaTsioni	העולמי
Congress	HaOlami	
Election	bekhirah	בְּחִירָה
Vote	hatzba'ah	הצְבָעָה

Feel free to add your own!



# Opening Activity

**Materials:**

- Whiteboard or large paper
- Pencils or markers

**Set Up:**

Write headings on the whiteboard:

- Zionism,
- Theodore Herzl
- Israel,
- Jewish Diaspora

**Time needed:**

10-15 minutes

**Directions:**

For students who can write, give them writing tools and ask them to write words or phrases they associate with each of the words underneath the heading.

For students who cannot write, ask the class to take turns sharing what they know about these topics. Write their answers under the headings.

Depending on your class, some students may know a lot about these topics and others might know very little. Encourage students to write something under each heading, even if it isn't a complete idea or just a question mark. This will help you gauge the class's collection knowledge.

Once everyone has contributed ideas, share the ideas aloud and invite students to ask clarifying questions if they have any.

You may want to begin by reminding everyone that many Jews have strong and different feelings about the State of Israel. Encourage students to be curious about each other's ideas, even if they disagree.

**Definitions of Terms:**

Zionism: a political ideology supporting the existence of a Jewish state

Theodore Herzl: Considered the "father of Zionism", Herzl

Israel: the ancestral Jewish homeland; today, the modern State of Israel

Jewish Diaspora: Jews living outside the Land of Israel

We will now explore these terms, and students' ideas around them, in more detail.

Designate one side of the room as “Agree” and one side “Disagree”. For this next activity, students should position themselves along that spectrum to answer the questions below. After asking the questions, allow students to share more about their answers if they wish.

Statements:

- I have been to Israel
- I have a family member or friend from Israel
- My family and/or friends talk a lot about Israel, or, Israel and Palestine)
- I have a lot of questions about Israel and Palestine
- I have heard the term “Zionism” before
- I have heard of the World Zionist Congress
- I have a lot of strong feelings and ideas about Israel and Palestine
- I think diaspora Jews should be involved in decision making in Israel



*My Notes*

## Platforms & Elections

**Materials:**

- Whiteboard
- Copies of Platforms (Appendix)
- Laptop/screen
- Ballot box

**Set Up:**

- Space to watch a video
- Space for students to work together

**Time needed:**

20-30 min

## **Directions:**

### **Start with a group brainstorm.**

Ask students what VALUES are most important to them (examples: friendship, kindness, fairness, etc). Next, ask students what values they think should be important to the State of Israel (examples: fairness, religious freedom, cultural respect, democracy, etc). If you want, you can write their answers on the whiteboard, compare and contrast their personal values with the values for Israel.

### **Explain how the World Zionist Congress (WZC) works:**

- Every five years, Zionist Jews around the world vote for people to represent them in the World Zionist Congress.
- The groups that get more votes get more seats, which means they have more collective power to have their voices heard and make decisions.
- Groups that have similar values form a coalition to build more power together.
- The WZC makes a lot of important decisions, including:
  - electing leadership for the World Zionist Organization,
  - deciding how to allocate funding for the Jewish Agency and the WZO,
  - shaping educational material about Israel and Zionism that will be shared with Diaspora Jews, and determining policy for the organization.
- Each representative in the Congress makes their decisions based on their religious and ethical values
- Diaspora Jews vote for groups that share their own personal values to make sure those are represented at the Congress
- Each group (called a “Slate”) writes a Platform. A platform is their statement about what values and issues are most important to them, and what causes they will work on if elected. By looking at a slate’s platform, you can determine if they share your values.

### **Let’s explore a few Slates from 2020 and 2025.**

Ask students to watch the videos and then respond to the following questions:

- What did you see? (People, symbols, places, etc)
- What did you hear? (Words, languages, music, etc)
- What symbols or phrases did you notice?
- Can you summarize this slate’s platform (group message) in a few words?

Videos:

- ARZA (Reform): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VPS\\_T9m29Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VPS_T9m29Q)
- Aish Ha'am: [https://www.youtube.com/shorts/B\\_j0ImUuWoQ](https://www.youtube.com/shorts/B_j0ImUuWoQ)
- Mercaz: <https://youtu.be/vLI9maQIMGQ>

## **Elections**

Choose some of the Slates from the Appendix. Try to choose a variety of platforms so that students understand the diversity of political ideologies in the Congress.

For younger students, use the summaries of platforms that are written in simpler language. For older students, use the official platforms from the slates' websites.

Ask students to pair up and randomly distribute the platforms to each pair. Have students

- read through their platform,
- identify the VALUES they see (explicitly or implicitly)
- highlight the words or phrases that stand out to them
- identify the core message of the group: what is emphasized, what is not mentioned, who is shown as the opposition of this group?
- For High School or Adult learners: ask participants to visit the websites of their assigned group to learn more.

Remind students to look carefully at the language used:

- What words grab your attention?
- What phrases do they use and what do those phrases mean in their context? (For example, many groups might use the phrase "Jewish identity", but mean different things)
- Who does this group consider "Us" and who do they consider "Others"

Ask students to prepare a 1 minute pitch for their slate.

Once all groups have given their pitch, have students cast TWO ballots; one can be for their group, but at least one must be for another group. (This will give more interesting election results.)

Count the ballots and distribute seats based on percentage of votes. The total number of seats in your Congress is the number of students. A group that got 10% of the votes gets 10% of the seats; a group that got 40% of votes gets 40% of the seats, etc.



## My Notes

# Building our Coalitions

### Materials:

- Copies of Making Decisions (Appendix)
- Pencils

### Set Up:

- Space for students to work together

### Time needed:

20 min

### Directions:

Split students into groups based on the winning slates of your election. Explain to students they are now representing their slate in the Congress. They likely will not be in the same group as they campaigned for, so now they should play the role of their assigned slate.

### Making Decisions

Give each group a copy of the Making Decisions worksheet. Ask them to discuss each topic and make a decision based on their group's platform (which might contradict their own personal values; remember, this is role playing!).

Once each group has made their decisions, have them talk to the other groups to see who else might share their opinions on each issue. They might find that their group overlaps with one group on one issue but another group on another issue. They might also agree to vote with a group that shares most of their values, even if it means compromising on one issue, so that they can ensure they win their most important issue.

Explain to students this is how “coalitions” are formed: groups that have similar, but not identical, values cooperate and work together to build power.

## **Voting on Resolutions (Decisions)**

Call a vote. Each student should vote Yes or No based on their group's decision. Tally up the votes and see what resolutions passed or failed.

Encourage students to notice that these decisions were made based on the power of each slate. A group that had more members got more votes and thus had more power. Remind them that the number of members in each group was determined by the election, so even though they didn't vote on issues in the first election, their choices of WHO to send to the Congress ended up determining how issues were decided. This is exactly how it works in the real Congress.

*(Note: Each topic from the Making Decisions worksheet was the subject of an official Resolution at the 38th Zionist Congress. Source: <https://www.wzo.org.il/page/zionist-congress-38/resolutions/en>)*



***My Notes***

# Closing Reflection

**Materials:**

- Paper & pencil (optional)

**Set Up:**

- Space for students to work together

**Time needed:**

5-10 min

**Directions:**

Tell students you are going to reflect on this experience. They can journal or reflect with another student.

- Did you feel aligned with your assigned slates? Why or why not?
- If you felt out of sync with your assigned role, how did it feel to argue for a different side?
- The World Zionist Congress is the most direct way Diaspora Jews have an impact on policies in Israel. Do you think it's important for Diaspora Jews to make these decisions? Why or why not?
- The issues you discussed in your groups came from real discussions at the last Zionist Congress. What other issues do you wish would have been discussed?
- What is one thing you learned today?
- What is one question you still have?

**Evaluating Student Success:**

- Did students engage by participating in activities, asking/answering questions?
- How did students respond to the material? Curious? Thoughtful? Uninterested?
- How did students show kavod (respect) to one another?
- How did students respond to the challenge to think more deeply about their own values in relationship to the State of Israel?

# Appendix

Here are some additional texts you will need for this program:

- **Descriptions of the Slates**
  - **Summarized Platforms for younger students**
  - **Platforms from Websites for older students**
- **Making Decisions Worksheet**

## Descriptions of the Slates

Below are the platforms for some of the slates (in alphabetical order) running for seats in the 39th World Zionist Congress.

Suggestions:

- For younger students, there are brief, age appropriate summaries for each slate. For older students, there are direct quotes from each organization about their goals for the 2025 election. Please choose the appropriate material for your group.
- You don't need to use all of these platforms in your election simulation. Please read through and choose platforms for your students depending on their age/level.
- Different groups use different terms based on their ideology. One place this is most evident is whether a group uses the phrase "the West Bank"/ "occupied West Bank", or refers to that geographic area as "Judea-Samaria". Encourage students to pay attention to how the language in each platform signals specific values or beliefs.

## **AID Coalition**

We want to create unity across all parts of Israeli society. We care about maintaining democracy in Israel, and ensuring that Israel is a liberal and just Jewish state that serves all its citizens.

## **Aish Ha'am**

We are committed to fighting antisemitism, advancing Jewish unity, educating every Jew and defending Israel. We believe Israel's security, stability and global standing are under attack, and we need every Jew to stand with Israel to protect it.

## **ANU**

We are proud Zionists and believers in the American dream. We want to build an Israel where every Jew can find their place. We believe that long term peace can only be found in a two-state solution where Israelis and Palestinians can live side-by-side.

## **Israel365**

We believe that Israel belong only to the Jewish People, and that the two-state solution is a part of our enemy's goal to destroy the Jewish state. We want strong leaders who will uphold our belief that as the entire land of Israel belongs to the Jewish People.

## **Hatikvah**

We want to build an Israel with equality for people of all races, religions and genders. We want to end the occupation in the West Bank and find diplomatic solutions to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We believe in democracy, racial and gender equality, and a fair justice system.

## **The Jewish Future**

We are dedicated to Jewish pride and peoplehood. We believe in a Zionism that values freedom, justice and peace for all. We want to create a strong Jewish future rooted in moderate, centrist, democratic values.

## **MERCAZ (Masorti/Conservative)**

We are focused on supporting Israelis suffering from the October 7th attacks. We stand up for Israel, fight antisemitism, and educate the next generation of Jews. We believe in promoting pluralism, democracy, and the liberal values of gender and LGBT equality int

## **Vote Reform**

We believe in an Israel that respects religious pluralism, women's rights, LGBTQ+ people, ethnic minorities, and a path to peace. We believe in a secure Israel that maintains its founding democratic values.

## **Zionist Organization of America**

We are one of the oldest Zionist organizations and have been fighting for Israel since the first Congress in 1897. We opposed the BDS movement, we wish to increase aliyah to the State of Israel, we use the language "Judea-Samaria" (and not "the West Bank") because we believe it is lawfully Jewish land.

## **AID Coalition (America-Israel Democracy)**

Our movement is focused on fostering unity and collaboration across all segments of Israeli society. We aim to direct World Zionist Congress (WZC) projects towards promoting universal democratic principles of equality, mutual respect, and civic engagement as envisioned in Israel's Declaration of Independence.

Though we operate independently of political parties, we maintain close dialogue with many democratic groups and parties, working towards building a broad coalition with a common goal. Our efforts represent a broad coalition united by shared values and a passion for a just and democratic Israel. Because of that approach we are the only organization representing all pro-democracy movements from Israel, with a clear commitment to safeguarding and strengthening the country's liberal and democratic foundations.

We are unique in that our partners have mobilized people on the ground and maintained coordination with other democratic organizations. While other groups participating in these elections may focus on specific important political interests, our focus is on rationally allocating resources to ensure Israel remains a democratic, liberal, and just Jewish state that serves all its citizens.

*(Source: <https://www.aid-coalition.org>)*



## Aish Ha'am

Aish Ha'am, a movement committed to fighting Antisemitism, advancing Jewish unity, educating every Jew and defending Israel, is running in the upcoming World Zionist Congress election to make your voices heard. Your vote is crucial to stand against this rising tide of hate and to embolden ourselves through unity, education, and Jewish wisdom. Stand with us to protect our people.

Our slate is packed with visionaries and advocates at the forefront of our fight against antisemitism, the drive for Jewish unity, education, and Israel's future.

Jewish unity is at risk, but unity is our greatest strength. Every Jew, no matter their background, plays a crucial role in our shared destiny. Your voice can bring us together. Antisemitism is spreading rapidly. But together, We can rise against it. Through education and advocacy, you can take a stand—in universities, online, and in every corner of the world.

As some lose touch with their roots, our collective identity weakens. By prioritizing Jewish education and connection, your commitment can reignite the flame of Jewish pride and heritage in every Jew. Israel, our heart and homeland, is under attack. Its security, stability, and global standing are at stake. Stand with Israel now to protect its security, prosperity, and rightful place in the world.

*(Source: <https://vote.aish.com>)*



## **ANU: A New Union**

We are proud Zionists. We are coalition builders. We are believers in the American dream. We answer the spread of strife with a simple reply: hinenu.

We believe in promoting a pluralistic vision in which every Jew finds their place and feels like a cherished part of the Jewish people.

We believe in fostering initiatives that bring American Jews and Israeli Jews closer to a reciprocal understanding within the framework of “arevut adadit” (mutual responsibility) – inspired by the timeless teaching that kol yisrael arevim zeh lazeh (all of Israel are responsible for one another).

We believe that the dream of swords being turned into plowshares can only be achieved by a two-state solution that allows Israelis and Palestinians to live peacefully side-by-side, advancing our aspiration for regional peace and the full acceptance of Israel into the global community.

*(Source: <https://www.anewunion.org/>)*



# Israel365 Action

The Israel365 Action movement believes in the Jewish people's right to the entire land of Israel and seeks a true and lasting peace for all of Israel's inhabitants. Today, the Israel365 Action movement is turning this plan into action by running as a party in the World Zionist Congress.

We speak the truth:

- Israel Belongs to the Jewish People.
- The two-state delusion is a cover for our enemy's true goal: the destruction of the Jewish state.
- For far too long, Zionist leadership has helped our enemies by supporting the misguided and dangerous drive for a "Palestinian State" in the historic heartland of the Jewish people – only to be rewarded with terror, war and murder.

We need Jewish leaders who will courageously state the truth: the entire land of Israel belongs to the people of Israel.

(Source: <https://israel365action.com/>)

**ISRAEL365ACTION**

# Hatikvah

Hatikvah is a broad coalition of liberal and progressive American Jews who strive to fully actualize the vision stated in Israel's Declaration of Independence: the State of Israel "will be based on the precepts of liberty, justice and peace as taught by the Prophets; and will uphold the full social and political equality of all its citizens, without distinction of race, creed, or sex; and will guarantee full freedom of conscience worship, education and culture."

Hatikvah is committed to preserving Israel's democracy and the rule of law; believing that all of its citizens must be treated equally and their civil and human rights protected. We marched with the pro-democracy movement in Israel and around the world to defend the judicial system.

Hatikvah supports religious and cultural pluralism in Israeli society and in Jewish communities around the globe. For the State of Israel to be an engine for Jewish continuity, it must empower the wide range of Jewish cultural and religious expression.

Hatikvah fiercely opposes the policy of permanent occupation and annexation of the West Bank. Without a diplomatic pathway ensuring freedom, security, and sovereignty for both Israelis and Palestinians, we will continue to perpetuate the cycle of violence for generations to come.

Hatikvah affirms that Gaza reconstruction plans are essential to the foundational roadmap that propels forward the peace process and self-determination for those living within the region.

Hatikvah's Zionism includes social equality, gender rights, LGBTQI+ equality and racial and economic justice for all.



# The Jewish Future

In a world where crises have hit Jewish communities hard – from the brutal attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023, to the ongoing threats against Jewish students and institutions worldwide – it's time for transformative change. The Jewish Future is here to lead the charge, reclaiming and reframing the Zionist movement through unity, and rooted in moderate, centrist, and classical liberal and democratic values.

We are a movement of proud Jews and Zionist moderates, dedicated to the core values of Jewish peoplehood and Jewish pride. Inspired by Israel's Declaration of Independence, we believe in a vision of Zionism that champions freedom, justice, and peace for all. We aim to create a strong Jewish future that rises from today's challenges.

## Our Goals:

- Engage the Next Generation
- Invest in Education and Action
- Combat Antisemitism
- Defend Israel
- Promote Diversity and Pluralism
- Fight Extremism
- Empower Jewish Communities
- Strive for Unity; Increase Accountability

(Source: <https://www.thejewishfuture.org>)



## **MERCAZ USA (Conservative / Masorti)**

A vote for MERCAZ USA in elections to the World Zionist Congress every five years not only helps us secure millions from these institutions to promote pluralism and strengthen Masorti Judaism in Israel. It not only helps us secure millions that our own synagogues, Ramah camps, USY programs, Men's Clubs, Sisterhoods, and more rely on here at home.

In Spring 2025, a vote for MERCAZ USA is a vote to make sure those hardest hit on October 7th receive resources they need to rebuild and recover. From making sure that KKL/JNF, controlled by the Zionist Congress, invests millions in rebuilding communities near Gaza, to ensuring the WZO properly handles its responsibility to implement Israel's official efforts to support our hostages and their families.

A vote for MERCAZ USA in online elections for the World Zionist Congress this coming spring is a vote to direct millions from those organizations to supporting those hardest hit on October 7th. To helping our own communities stand up for Israel, fight antisemitism and educate the next generation. To strengthening the Masorti Movement and promoting pluralism, democracy, and democratic values like gender and LGBT equality in the Jewish state.

*(Source: <https://www.mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025>)*



## VOTE REFORM:

Reform Judaism and our vision of Israel as a democratic, pluralistic state face historic challenges. Ultra-Orthodox rabbis and extreme politicians control key levers of power and aim to relegate Reform Jews, women, LGBTQ+ Israelis, and ethnic minorities to secondary status.

Our successes include:

- Our fight for LGBTQ+ rights has led to the same-sex partners of fallen soldiers receiving crucial death benefits for the first time.
- Our advocacy for religious pluralism has seen a growing outcry for patrilineal Jews fallen in battle or murdered by terrorists on 10/7 to receive a full Jewish burial inside Jewish cemeteries, rather than being degraded in death and buried outside the fence.
- Our movement's long battle for gender equity in Israel has led to the advancement of women in the IDF (an important pathway to social/economic advancement in Israeli society).

While Israelis fight to keep their borders secure, you can act to secure Israel as a democratic state. Your vote directly impacts resources and funding for Reform synagogues, rabbis, values, and advocacy.

We need you to help ensure religious pluralism, women's rights, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and a path to peace.

(Source: <https://www.vote4reform.org/>)



# Zionist Organization of America (ZOA)

ZOA's activism at the WZC began with the very first Congress in 1897, where we helped launch the effort to “establish for the Jewish people a publicly and legally assured home in” our homeland.

Since then, the ZOA Coalition has initiated and achieved numerous accomplishments for the Jewish people and the Jewish State of Israel. For example:

- In 1919, ZOA helped to negotiate the Jewish people's binding legal rights to the Land of Israel at the Paris Peace Conference;
- In 2015, ZOA Coalition initiated & passed the WZC's anti-BDS resolution – which included preventing BDS targeting Judea and Samaria;
- In 2024, ZOA Coalition passed its numerous initiatives to help Israel's war efforts, Aliyah and combatting campus and other antisemitism.
- the ZOA Coalition initiated and obtained passage of the resolution requiring the use of the proper names “Judea and Samaria,” instead of the de-Judaized name “West Bank.” We make it clear that Judea-Samaria is historic, lawful Jewish land, not “occupied Palestinian territory.”
- ZOA Coalition has been continuing our battle against anti-Israel boycotts. For instance, ZOA Coalition initiated and obtained passage of a resolution establishing a program to encourage buying Israeli products via a positive “Buy-cott”—an antidote to boycotts.

(Source: <https://www.zoacoalition.org>)



# Making Decisions

*Look at your party's platform and values. Using that as a guide, read through the issues below and vote on each issue based on your party's platform (which might be different than how you personally feel).*

**1**

Israel's Declaration of Independence, and the values listed in it, should be a central, guiding document of the WZC.

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**2**

To strengthen connection between Israel and the Jewish LGBTQ community, the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization should celebrate Pride Month

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**3**

We should use the term "Aliyah" and not "immigration" to refer to people who permanently move to Israel.

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**4**

The World Zionist Organization should create a Hebrew curriculum to educate Diaspora Jews

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**5**

The World Zionist Organization should spend more time and money encouraging Diaspora Jews to move to Israel.

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**6**

The World Zionist Organization should spend more time and money fighting anti-Zionism and antisemitism on college campuses.

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

**7**

The World Zionist Organization should create more educational material about Zionism for Diaspora Jews.

Strongly Disagree      Disagree      Agree      Strongly Agree

# Beyond the Classroom: Engaging Your Community

## Want to engage your wider synagogue community?



Share the flyer (next page) with your community



Share this video, “Progressive Israel Network: The Upcoming World Zionist Congress Elections and Why They Matter Urgently,” from the Movement-wide convening on Israel to educate your community about the World Zionist Congress, the Hatikvah slate, and why the elections matter

*<https://www.reconstructingjudaism.org/article/progressive-israel-network-the-upcoming-world-zionist-congress-elections-and-why-they-matter-urgently/>*



Adapt the educational material in this packet for an intergenerational program that includes all ages

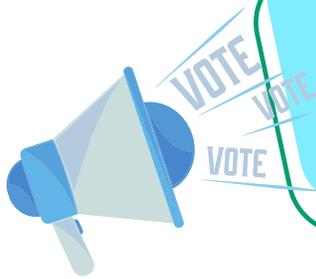


Host a community discussion about priorities concerning Israel and how your community might engage with the World Zionist Congress elections

# Want to Vote for the 39th World Zionist Congress?

“ The Congress elects the officers for the World Zionist Organization, sets priorities and policies for JNF, the Jewish Agency, and United Israel Appeal. The Congress also allocates funding and chooses educational goals for the Jewish Agency. ”

“ The World Zionist Congress is made up of delegates elected from a variety of political and religious positions. The more votes a coalition receives, the more seats they win and the more impact they can have. ”



**Elections for the 39th WZC are  
March 10 - May 4, 2025.**

To vote for the 39th World Zionist Congress, you must be:

- Jewish (and not subscribe to another religion)
- 18 years or older by June 30, 2025
- A U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident in the U.S., with primary US residence
- Affirm your commitment to the Jerusalem Program (the Zionist movement platform)
- Have not voted in the November 2022 Knesset election (and will not vote in any future Knesset election which may be held prior to July 28, 2025)

The Reconstructionist Movement is part of the Hatikvah slate.  
To learn more visit: <https://www.hatikvahslate.net/>