

WZC Election Toolkit



VOTE OUR ISRAEL

DEFENDING ISRAEL'S DEMOCRACY IN THE NAME OF JUDAISM

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liberal judaism



The movement for
REFORM JUDAISM



Welcome to the team!

This toolkit contains essential information and resources.

How to Talk About the World Zionist Congress

Start conversations from a place of story, relationship, and heart.

◆ What is the World Zionist Congress?

The World Zionist Congress (WZC), also called the “Parliament of the Jewish People,” is an elected body that serves as a platform for all Jews to have a voice in Israel. Through the WZC elections, Jews around the world can cast a vote that will influence policy and \$1 billion in budget decisions in Israel and advocate for democracy, pluralism, security, and humanitarian causes.

Established long before the State of Israel was founded, the WZC endures because the founders recognised that Israel had to be a project of the entire Jewish people to succeed. Today, the WZC meets every five years to determine policies and spending priorities until the next congress.

◆ In Brief

- Theodor Herzl established the World Zionist Congress (WZC) in 1897.
- Sometimes called the Parliament of the Jewish People, the WZC meets in Jerusalem every five years and allocates billions of dollars to organisations in Israel and around the world.
- Delegates to the WZC are elected by Jews around world.
- The WZC gives us a voice that can help shape Israeli society.
- Our delegates to the WZC have the power to help direct resources to organizations that support our values of democracy, pluralism, shared society, security, and our Jewish future.
- UK voter registration is from 8 April to 13 May 2025!

Votes = Delegates = Money & Influence

What's at Stake?



On October 7, we saw that when democracy is threatened, Israel is less secure and more vulnerable to her enemies. In the months since, we have seen again that what happens in Israel impacts all Jews as we face rising levels of antisemitism. In 2025, there is no opting out – what happens in Israel affects us all.

Our opponents in the WZC election – ultra-orthodox religious fundamentalists – have a vision for the future of Israel that is diametrically opposed to ours. They are highly motivated and are committed to destroy what we value. If they win, they will chip away at Israel's democracy; roll back gains for LGBTQ+ rights, gender equality, and religious pluralism; strip our Israeli Reform clergy and communities of their rights, funding, and infrastructure; make sure that our converts and children are not welcome in the Jewish state; and block any hope of Palestinian self-determination and safety. They want to write the next chapter of Jewish history and write us out of it.

The Israeli Reform Movement, our partners in Israel, are fighting every day to support and sustain a community at war and in trauma, while standing strong for Israeli democracy, pluralism, security, and a road to self-determination for Palestinians. They are asking for our voices and our help. We are committed to answering their call.

Voter registration



www.arzenu.uk/registration

To be eligible to register to vote, you must:

- be Jewish
- be 18 years or older by 30 June 2025
- be a permanent UK resident
- accept the Jerusalem Program
- have not voted in the November 2022 Knesset election or another WZC election elsewhere.

Voter registration will be open from 8 April to 13 May.

For registration, individuals will need to upload a photo of their ID (passport or driver's license) and pay £1 registration fee.

Online voting

Every registered voter will receive detailed instructions how to vote.

Voting will take place from 8 to 12 June.



Key Talking Points

✓ Do you care about Israel? Are you concerned with the current situation in Israel and who is in charge? Have you felt powerless or hopeless? There is something we are doing together as the Liberal, Reform and Masorti Movement to impact the future of Israel!

✓ Your vote for our slate OUR ISRAEL in the WZC is a vote for peace, pluralism, LGBTQ+ rights, women's rights, returning our hostages and strengthening our Jewish communities.

✓ Voter registration is open from 8 April to 13 May. To register, individuals must upload a copy of their ID (passport or driver's license) and pay a registration fee of £1.

✓ Elections taking place online from 8 to 12 June, will determine the make-up of the UK delegation to the World Zionist Congress. The UK will be represented by a total of 19 delegates.

Why Vote?

- ✓ We are at a turning point in Jewish history. The voices and activism of the Liberal, Reform and Masorti Jewish community around the world has never been more crucial.

- ✓ As we are facing rising levels of antisemitism around the world – especially impacting our young people – in 2025 there is no opting out: what happens in Israel affects all of us.

- ✓ We are up against motivated and disciplined opponents whose vision for the future of Israel is diametrically opposed to ours. Right-wing, religious fundamentalists are organising against us with plans to roll back all the issues we care about – to chip away at Israel’s democracy; to roll back gains for LGBTQ+ rights, gender equality and religious pluralism; to strip our Israeli Reform clergy and communities of their rights, funding and infrastructure and make sure that our converts and children are not welcome in the Jewish state; to block any hope of Palestinian self-determination and safety. They want to write the next chapter of Jewish history and write us out of it – our values of pursuing justice demand that we cannot let that happen!



The 100-word version

The World Zionist Congress (WZC), “The Parliament of the Jewish People,” was conceived before the establishment of Israel as a forum where all Jews could express their values. Today, it represents a platform for Diaspora Jews, with Progressive Jews as equals around the table, to influence Israel’s actions and values. Through the World Zionist Congress, we aim to influence Israeli policy and budget decisions, advocating for democracy, pluralism, and human rights and a path to peace with Palestinians. Ultra-orthodox Jews and ultra-nationalists are working hard to shape an Israel where our values are not welcome. The upcoming 2025 WZC election presents a pivotal opportunity for us to exert our influence and shape the future of Israel.

The 50-word version

The World Zionist Congress (WZC) serves as the democratic cornerstone for world Jewry, a "Parliament of the Jewish People," convening every five years. Integral to Israel's democratic fabric, the WZC election empowers voices shaping Israeli society. By ensuring we are represented, we will ensure that the Congress promotes our vision for Israel: advocating for democracy, pluralism, and human rights for all.



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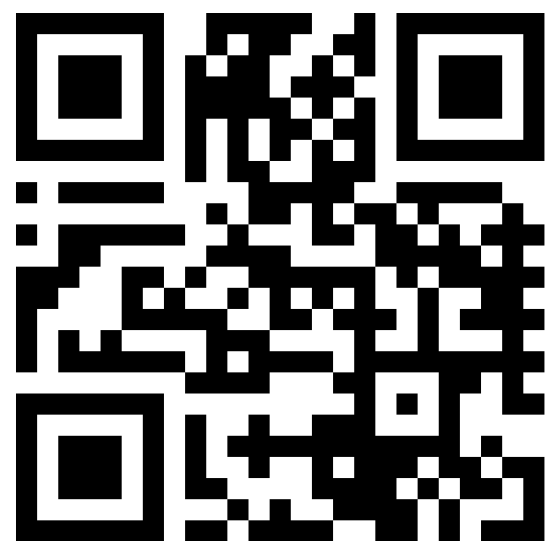
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