



Advocacy Update

Sent April 8, 2015

Want to Make a Difference in Israel?

Dear Friend:

When we dream about Israel, we see an Israel that embraces pluralism, progressivism, and democracy. We see an Israel that recognizes the rights of Reform Rabbis to marry, convert, and bury Jews, and an Israel that equally supports all synagogues and all forms of Jewish observance. The Israel of our dreams allows women to worship as they desire at the Kotel and permits families to come together at Judaism's most holy site to witness their sons and daughters becoming a bar/bat mitzvah. This Israel is committed to investing in the peace process and prioritizes peace over the building of new settlements. All citizens are afforded equal rights and equal treatment and no one—Jew, Arab or Christian—is subject to acts of terror.

A dream? Yes! But we seek to make this dream a reality for Israel and for Jews everywhere. We can get there, but not without you.

What are we asking you to do?

This year, the World Zionist Organization (WZO) is electing a new congress. This congress will help make serious decisions that will affect Israel—and Jews the world over—for generations to come.

Why is this election important?

The more seats ARZA controls in the WZO congress (WZC), the more control they will have over budget and political appointments. They can secure additional funding for the Reform community of Israel, work to allow women to pray more freely at the Kotel, push hard to ensure that Israel stops spending money on settlements at the cost of the peace process, and much more.

We here at WRJ work every day for the Israel that we see when we close our eyes—an Israel that embraces diversity and democracy and says “no” to the settlement expansion that is stealing our future.

We are writing today to ask you to vote with ARZA: Representing Reform Judaism in the WZC elections so that we can stand together with all Jews in working for an Israel that is pluralistic, progressive and democratic

How do you learn more and vote now?

To learn more about this important election, visit the [WRJ website](#). There, you can read about WRJ's involvement and support of the campaign, the history of the WZO, steps you can take now (including downloading logos, graphics, flyers and videos you can share with your friends), and much more! Be sure to also follow WRJ on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

When you are ready, be sure to [cast your ballot for ARZA: Representing Reform Judaism in the WZO Elections](#). With just a few minutes of your time, you can make a real difference for the Reform Jewish Movement.

Sincerely,

Ellen Petracco, WRJ Board Member and WRJ Liaison to the ARZA/WZO Election Campaign
Lynn Magid Lazar, WRJ Immediate Past President and Exec. Committee Member of the ARZA/WZO Election Campaign

For more information on WRJ and Social Justice, visit www.wrj.org/social-justice-home